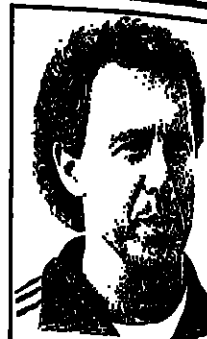




THE STAR'S WORLD CUP CONTEST BY FRANZ BECKENBAUER



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QUESTION 9 QUESTION 10

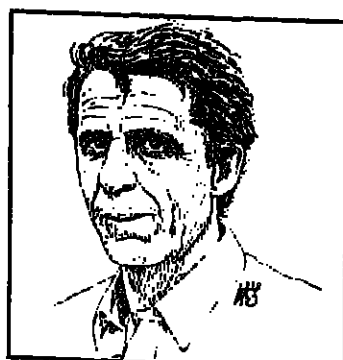
When I think of some of the great players this nation has produced it always comes as a surprise to me that it has never been a world champion. Its best performance was a semi-final place when it was beaten 2-1 by the losing finalists. In 1986 in Mexico, the squad was counted among the strongest but the team was eliminated in the second round. One of the players did not go completely empty handed that year, having made his international debut as a substitute against Switzerland during the Mexico qualifiers in May 1985, he emerged as one of the stars of the 1986 tournament. He earned that title that year which only two countrymen before him had won. Who was the player and what is the country?

The 1966 World Cup in England had its fair share of upsets. The elimination of title holders Brazil in the first round and the advance of rank outsiders North Korea to the quarter-finals were just two of the surprises. For me, the most memorable occasion was the final game. It was my first World Cup, and there I was playing in front of a capacity crowd at London's Wembley Stadium. It was a match full of drama that England went on to win 4-2 in extra time. At last, England had won the World Cup. But they might have had to do without the trophy if it wasn't for a black and white mongrel. The dog found the World Cup under a bush in his garden, after it had been stolen from a display in London. Can you name the dog?

WHO WILL MAKE IT?

CAMEROON

No taming of the "Lions" in Italy



Valeri Nepomniachi,
Cameroon

CAMEROON'S "Untamable Lions" are not going to let themselves be chained up at the World Cup in Italy. The "Lions Indomptables" could not be tamed in 1982 in Spain at their World Cup debut either. They remained unbeaten and in the first round even drew with subsequent World Champions, Italy.

The current team has been showered with premature praise from the French sports newspaper "L'Equipe," for whom they are "the best this decade."

Berti Vogts, future West German national coach, who brought Germany's under-21 team to Cameroon for two games in December, sees things in a more balanced light: "Cameroon will not belong to the top teams in Italy."

"The team shows tactical shortcomings, although the players are almost perfect on

the ball." They will be forced to put their skills to the test right at the beginning of the World Cup: They meet World champions, Argentina, in the opening game. Further Group B opponents are the Soviet Union and Romania.

Cameroon's "liontamer" for their second World Cup appearance will be 45-year-old Soviet trainer Valeri Nepomniachi. The ex-Dynamo Samarkand player is a pupil of Soviet national trainer Valeri Lobanovskii.

Not only has he qualified for the World Cup with his team, but can also show the best balance sheet in international matches of all World Cup par-

ticipants: Cameroon has played in 40 international matches since 1986, won 26, drawn nine and lost only five. All their opponents, however, were from the African continent.

The strongest section of the "Lions" team is the attack. Elegance on the ball is the trademark of Francois Omani-Blyck, who plays for French first division team Stade Laval, and who scored the sole goal in the decisive qualifying game against Tunisia. Outside left Louis-Paul Miede, from Caron Yaounde, is a consummate dribbler of the ball who brings us our to the game and is a constant danger in front of goal.

A bulwark in defence is keeper Joseph Antone. One of six World Cup participants who earn their keep with French teams, he stands in goalmouth of title holders Bordeaux. Bell colleague Thomas N'Kono, known even beyond the borders of Africa, from the team cadre. However, old N'Kono - in his own compared to legendary star goalie Lev Yashin - will be included in the line-up in Italy.

10 MAY 1990

The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

Amman, 17-23 May 1990

اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

Vol: 1 No: 17



Bitter-sweet
experience

page 5

Photo by Khalid Al-Zawawi



Egypt under Mubarak,
page 14



A stunning piece of
theatre, page 7



Remarkable Lady Hester,
page 6
Getting rid of Stalin, page 12

Arab Bank
in
Muhajereen (Amman)
and
Fuhels

See back page.

★ PRIZES ★

In co-operation with the sportswear company adidas and car manufacturer Mercedes, the following prizes will be offered to winners:

- 1-One original adidas Worldcup track suit as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the finals;
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- 3-One original adidas Worldcup football jersey as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the finals;
- 4-One original adidas football "Etrusco Unico," the official football of the Worldcup finals in Italy.
- 5-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:10, of the legendary sports car Mercedes 300 SL, year of construction 1954;
- 6-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:24, of the Mercedes car Simplex, year of construction 1902;
- 7-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:18, of the Mercedes car SSK, year of construction 1928.

C O U P O N

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Conditions: To be eligible to win one of the grand prizes you must identify 6 players in competition A and answer at least 8 questions correctly from competition B.

You can send as many coupons as you like to increase your chances of winning.

Coupons should be sent on weekly basis.

ADC peace march 'postponed' not cancelled

AMMAN (Star)—The Executive Director of the Palestine Peace March, which was supposed to take place between 1 and 4 June, Mr Ahmad Al Budeiri has issued a statement on behalf of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) announcing that the march has been postponed until 29 November of this year. He said that the postponement was made at the request of many personalities and international organisations which needed more time to enable them to participate in the march, which is organised by ADC.

He said that ADC re-affirms that the goals of the march call

for supporting the Palestinian Intifada and the right of Palestinians to self-determination and the establishment of their state on their land, calling for immediate negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and drawing world public opinion to the current peace efforts for a just and lasting peace. Yet despite the ADC confirmation that the march will take place on its new date, news circulating in Jordan has it that the march was cancelled in response to pressure from the Muslim Brotherhood Movement. Spokesman for the Muslim Bloc at the Lower House of Parliament, Dr Abdul Latif Ara

biyyat, has publicly voiced the Islamic movement's opposition to the march. He said in a recent press conference that peace marches will not achieve any results, and "advised" the organisers of these marches to reconsider their plans. Dr Arabiyyat reiterated the position of the Muslim Brotherhood which rejects all peace initiatives. "Jihad, armed struggle, is the only means of restoring the rights in Palestine," he said. Friday preachers have also severely attacked the ADC peace march, saying that "Jihad" was the only means of restoring the rights of the Muslim nation.

Focus on Parliament

By Ahmad Al Husban

Deputies who are members of the Royal Committee that was entrusted with drafting the National Charter have adopted a unified position stating that the charter should not be put to public plebiscite, and should be presented to the Parliament for approval just like any other law.

Deputy Issa Al-Reimouni

has said that he has finished the drafting of a charter of a new political party. He said that the party aspires to "build the Arab identity" through modern cultural and educational policies.

Deputy Ahmad Uweidi Al Abbadi has started preparations for forming a new political party called the Jordanian National Party (HAMAD). Dr Al-Abbadi has held a number of meetings with fellow-deputies and citizens to discuss the principles and regulations of the new party.

First floating rate note issue in Jordan

AMMAN (Star)—The Amman Bank for Investments has led a consortium of investment banks in managing and underwriting the first government guaranteed floating rate note issue in the Jordanian market.

The issue of JD six million will be the fourth for the borrower Jordan Electricity Authority. It will be amortized during the period (1993-1998) the floating rate of the interest will be decided half yearly on the basis of the rate of interest on the latest development bank plus (0.5 per cent). The interest for the first period (from 23 June 1990 to 23 December 1990) will be 9.5 per cent per annum.

Minor government reshuffle expected before end of May

AMMAN (Star)—A minor reshuffle in the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran is expected to take place before the end of this month, according to sources close to the Prime Ministry.

The Star has learned that the reshuffle will be very limited and will not include more than three portfolios.

Sources of the Islamic bloc in the Lower House of Parliament have said that the coming reshuffle will not lead to the inclusion of any of its members in the cabinet.

The sources said that the Muslim Brotherhood Movement has not asked for any portfolio and maintains the right to do so at "the appropriate time."

The British Council
المجلس الثقافي البريطاني

BRITISH COUNCIL SCHOOLS QUIZ

The final round of the General Knowledge Schools Quiz between Ahliyyah School for Girls and Bishops School for Boys, will be transmitted by Radio Jordan on: Friday 18 May 1990 at 10.30 a.m., and on Sunday 20 May at 11.00 a.m. on the F.M. 99 MHz.

(MAP) Jordan Medical Aid for Palestinians

The chairman and members of MAP's board of trustees wish to express their deepest gratitude and appreciation to:

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath.

for patronising MAP's activities and participating in MAP's march last Friday and their inauguration of the charitable Souk Baladi.

MAP also wishes to express thanks to all brothers and sisters among Jordanian citizens for their efforts to make MAP's activities successful in extending assistance to the injured people among the Palestinians in their uprising.

MAP would also like to express thanks to all those who contributed to the march and the charitable Souk Baladi including diplomatic missions, companies, schools, universities and various organisations either directly or through organising the march or providing financial assistance.

MAP also thanks the directors of the Civil Defence and Public Security Departments and the Information Services including Radio Jordan and Jordan Television and the Press for their contributions by focusing the Jordanian public's attention on MAP's activities and for covering the charitable march.

MAP's President Abdul Majeed Shomari

17 MAY 1990

A clear window on Arab culture

By Pam Dougherty
Special to The Star



Mr Edgard Pisani

who are trying to learn more about it.

He feels that the new programme of debates introduced last October and which have good coverage in French news-

papers, is an effective way to open up discussion of difficult subjects. A recent debate on the Franco-Algerian war, still a subject which rouses passions on both the French and Algerian sides, was, he says "tough, passionate but respectful."

And for the future M. Pisani is excited about a sophisticated new audio visual programme now under development at the Institute. Once it is completed visitors will be able to nominate a subject, may be a particular country such as Jordan or Yemen which they plan to visit but know little about, or a topic such as Umayyad mosques or modern Egyptian painting and a high quality slide show will be instantly available.

On 1 April this year, a visitor to the institute could attend the opening of an exhibition of Mogul carpets and textiles, on 5 May the choice was an exhibition of stamps from the Arab world, while 6 June will see the opening of an exhibition of works by three Arab women artists including Princess Fahrelnissa.

Institute President Edgard Pisani was in Amman this week to meet representatives of Jordanian cultural institutions including the Jordan National Gallery and at a press conference he talked of the institute's aims and activities and its future plans.

He explained that it was established as a joint enterprise between the French and Arab states to present the variety of richness of Arab civilisation, past and present, to what M. Pisani acknowledges is a poorly informed French public. The Institute also works to improve cultural exchange between France and the Arab World particularly in the field of science and technology.

For the past two and a half years the institute has been housed in its own elegant purpose-built home which enjoys a prime location close to both the Sorbonne and the Notre Dame Cathedral. The building houses a first class library, a documentation centre which is open to individuals and institutions with an interest in the Arab World, an audio visual centre, a museum which also functions as an art gallery and facilities which can be hired for conferences, receptions and cultural events.

M. Pisani was philosophical about the sorts of problems faced by the institute. He noted wryly that the failure of some Arab states to pay their share of its annual running costs and the interest of Arab board members in more than just cultural affairs were to be expected. Other problems were due to the youth of the Institute itself but, as it became better known in the Arab World many of these were solving themselves.

Overall M. Pisani feels the Institute is succeeding in its aim of giving the French public a clearer image of the Arab World. It is, he says, a subtle, long term process but he points to the fact that around 40 per cent of visitors to the Institute are members of the public who have no connection with Arab-World and



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Amman - Jordan

17 MAY 1990

THE STAR 3

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Jordan's 9th international rally kicks off today

Bin Sulayem most likely to clinch the trophy

By Frida Jeryes and
Hamdan Al-Haj
Special to The Star

CROWDS OF spectators are expected to be queuing today, Thursday, at 10:00 am at the Marriott Hotel to watch 42 cars kick off to start the 1055-km race of the Jordan International Rally.

This year's event is sponsored by the Royal Automobile Club (RAC) and will host teams from Kuwait, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the Soviet Union, as well as Jordan.

The two-day race will take competitors from the Marriott Hotel to Jerash in the north and to the ancient city of Petra, in the south passing through the lowest point on earth at the Dead Sea. The route will comprise 24 special stages totalling 480 kms out of the rally's total distance, including twisted mountain roads, gravel tracks, forest and desert roads, all similar to routes well known to participants of international rallies such as the Monte Carlo, Acropolis, Corsica and the Safari.

The race will be divided into three legs. The first leg, starting at the Marriott Hotel, will take contenders to the Dead Sea and back to the Roman Amphitheatre, and the second leg will take them from the finish point of the first leg to Jerash and back, late at night to the Marriott Hotel, while the third leg of the race will also start at the Marriott Hotel on Friday morning taking the contenders to Petra and back, on the same day, to the starting point.

"This year's rally is two rallies in one," said Mr Derick Ledger, the RAC general manager. There are 27 group B and S cars participating in the event as part of the National Jordan Rally, while 15 group A and N cars are entering the race as part of the Middle East Championship Rally, the first round of which took place in Qatar during February. The Jordan International Rally is the second round in the Middle East Championship, to be followed by the Lebanon, Oman, Kuwait and United Emirates rallies consecutively.

Participants

A very well-known face taking part in the event and seems to be a favourite nominee for the trophy is the Arab World No 1 driver, Mohammad Bin Sulayem, partnered by Irishman Ronan Morgan in a Winston Toyota Celica GT-4. The UAE Champion has arrived in Jordan with his confidence high after

his success in the season's opening round in Qatar last February. The title means as much to me now as it ever has," he says. "Winning the first round of the championship is always important, but with five more rallies left there's still a long way to go," says Bin Sulayem.

Apart from having won in Jordan in 1987 and 1988, he clinched the first of his 17 international triumphs here back in 1984 and has a special liking for the event. "I was very disappointed that the rally was cancelled in 1989 and I'm delighted that it's back in the championship this year. He assures that Jordan's rally is a very well-organised race and one of his favourite events.

"The route has a lot of variety



Mr Derick Ledger

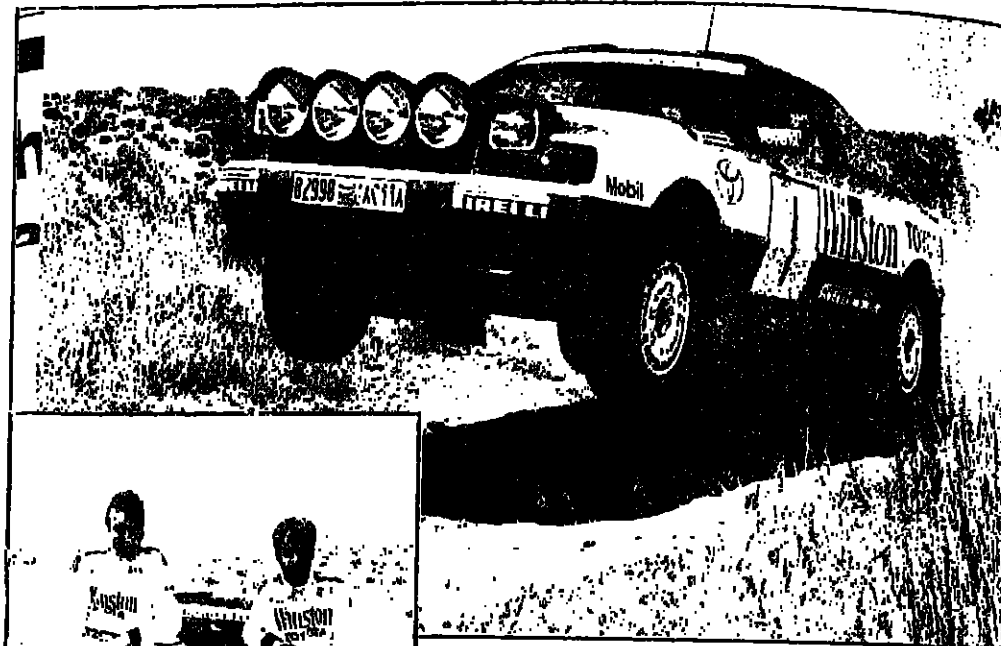
and tests the driver as well as the car and it has provided me with great battles over the years," he adds. In 1988, Sulayem won the first three rounds in Qatar, Kuwait and Jordan marking his seventh consecutive Middle East rally victory.

Other victories include second place in the 1988 Gunaydin International Rally and successful finishes in the Cyprus, Principe d'Asturias, Loto Bianchi, and Hasepangou international rallies.

His partner, Ronan Morgan guided Sulayem to victory in Kuwait in the new Group A Winston Toyota Celica AT-4, and the result gave the Dubai driver the lead in the Middle East Championship.

According to Ledger, strong competition is expected from another Dubai contender, Suhail Bin Khalifa, who made his international debut earlier this year at the Qatar Rally, in which he endured a harsh disappointment following a crash that broke his Mitsubishi Galant VR4 front left strut.

Nevertheless, Khalifa has three consecutive triumphs to his credit in the Masafi 4WD Rally of



Everybody's eyes will be focused on a great team: Bin Sulayem, Morgan and their Winston Toyota



Dubai, regarded as one of the toughest in the world. But, admits Khalifa, "the competition in the Middle East championship is stronger." Khalifa is partnered by Qatari Mubarak Al Hajiri in a Marlboro Mitsubishi.

Other international competitors include teams from the Soviet Union, Qatar and Oman, as well as Jordan, while Saudi Arabia's participation is restricted to the Jordan National Rally, taking place simultaneously with the Middle East championship.

Leading Jordanian competitors include Issa Halabi, in a Ford Sierra Cosworth, Alfred Shamoun, in a Seat Ibiza SXI, Nabil Dirani, in an Opel Mania 2.0, and Mazen Dajani, in a Toyota Corolla GT.

Safety measures

According to Ledger, all measures regarding the safety of drivers have been arranged a good time ahead of the event. Hospitals, doctors, rescue vehicles and helicopters have been notified to remain alert throughout the event, he said.

Improving the safety procedures and measures of the event is one of the requirements set by Federation Internationale du Sports Automobile (FISA) to include the Jordan Rally in the series of world championships.

Says Ledger, "we are making every effort to reach the standards required by FISA because the inclusion of Jordan in the 15 world championships would be a very good achievement for Jordanian motor sports."

According to Ledger, a panel of international judges, with representatives from Britain, USA, Germany, Cyprus and Jordan, will report on the routes, results, press coverage and other related

aspects of the rally. Honorary Vice President of FISA, Mr Peter Cooper, will observe and inspect the rally "from A to Z" and submit a special report to the Federation. The report will deal with the organisation of the event, press coverage, safety procedures, competitors, routes and cars, Ledger added.

Both sponsoring, and organising the event, the RAC is assisted by 400 marshals, who have volunteered their services either at the press office, service areas, regrouping points or other areas that require the presence of the organisers.

Two press offices have been established to help reporters, TV networks and radio stations to cover the event; one at the Marriott Hotel and another at the Jerash Resthouse.

Group A and N cars

Under a decision made by FISA a few years ago, the very powerful and thus dangerous group B cars have been replaced

and N cars are just about the same as the usual cars, direct ordinary people," only that group N has additional safety modifications, such as spot seats and fire extinguishers while group A cars have additional engine modifications: a strengthened body. Both are homologated, which means the acceptance of a specific production car in an international racing category, provided a proof of the construction of a specific number of cars be made by the manufacturers.

History

Motor sports made its debut in Jordan in 1965 on a small national scale. But with the encouragement and support of His Majesty King Hussein who himself took part in such activities in 1965, 1966, 1967, the sport witnessed a rapid progress during a limited time. Says Ledger, "King Hussein has always been keen on encouraging motor sports, in its different forms in the Kingdom, on attracting more people to it."

However, comments Ledger



This year's rally enjoys improved safety measures

by a less powerful breed, the group A cars. In 1989 a permission was granted by the Jordanian authorities to import to Jordan 15 such cars, duty free, for interested Jordanian rally drivers.

This year, six Jordanian participants are driving the new breed to score points in the Middle East championship.

The still existing group B cars will only race in the Jordan National rally, upon permission from FISA, "because there aren't enough group A and N cars" according to Ledger.

He clarifies that the group A

"with the current economic circumstances, much hard work and patience are needed to further develop motor sports."

● An announcement by the RAC general manager, Mr Derick Ledger, says that all spectators are "welcomed to watch the race, provided that they are 'sensible' and avoid standing in dangerous positions; since the speed of racing cars could reach 170 kms per hour on some desert tracks."

17 MAY 1990

'Right to return' bitter-sweet experience

JORDAN VALLEY (Star) - It was a hot day - emotionally, that is. An estimated 25,000 people walked Monday the 2-kilometre distance to a point less than one kilometre from the King Hussein Bridge on the Jordan River and the occupied West Bank. Described as the largest demonstration of popular support of the steadfastness of the Palestinian Intifada, the march aptly named "The Right to Return" attracted Jordanians, Palestinians and Arabs from all walks of life.

Jordan's professional unions and the popular committees for the support of the Intifada organised the march.

While the march was described as a success by its organisers, it ended unexpectedly with confrontation between hundreds of demonstrators and anti-riot police. When the marchers reached an end point previously agreed upon between the organisers and the authorities, many demonstrators protested and demanded that they be allowed to continue to the bridge. "It was an emotionally-charged atmosphere," said one participant. "Tears were coming from people's eyes even before the police began using tear gas to stop the march."

When demonstrators ignored the request to return to the start-

ing point, a number of incidents occurred where people clashed with the police forcing the public security personnel to fire tear gas canisters towards the demonstrators.

"I don't know how it started, but the police were very disciplined," said a reporter covering the march. "I saw one demonstrator ignoring the instructions of a policeman who was pleading with him not to continue the march for his own safety. The policeman controlled himself even after the demonstrator abused him."

As a result of a barrage of two kinds of tear gas canisters used by the police, hundreds of people suffered minor injuries from gas inhalation. Police and hospital reports said 52 demonstrators were injured and were taken by ambulances to hospital. At least 2500 people attempted to bypass an army armoured car and head to the bridge. The clashes, which included stone throwing by some demonstrators, lasted for less than two hours, before people retreated.

"It is not our fault," said an elderly man. "We were told that we will reach the bridge, but we were not allowed to do so. It is difficult to control our feelings when we are so close to Palestine," he said.



17 MAY 1990

THE STAR 5

By Maggie James
Special to The Star

Lady Hester Stanhope — Legendary traveller

LONDON - Of the intrepid British women who ventured to the Near East in the nineteenth century, Lady Hester Stanhope was the pioneer. She sojourned in what was then the Ottoman Empire early in the nineteenth century and ended her days in Syria. Author Virginia Childs recounts the many adventures Lady Hester experienced along the way in her biography, "Lady Hester Stanhope: Queen of the Desert", published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson.

Lady Hester gained notoriety when in 1803, at the age of 27, she was left homeless and went to live with her uncle William Pitt. He was then 44 and, apart from a brief respite, had served as Britain's prime minister since the age of 24. He was not only the country's youngest ever leader, but was recognised as a brilliant statesman. It was a surprise to Pitt's colleagues and friends that he, a bachelor used to living on his own, should welcome Lady Hester so readily.

"Living with Pitt," says the author, "meant that Lady Hester was suddenly immersed in the political life of the country and, because she was intelligent and logical and had always been interested in people, she quickly found it enthralling. At first she simply listened, but she learned fast and soon began giving her opinions and judgements to the leading figures she met. At first she was listened to as a matter of courtesy, but when it became apparent that she had an unusually quick grasp of new subjects, and could often come up with sensible, sometimes inspired solu-

tions to problems, people began to take her seriously."

When Pitt died in 1806, Lady Hester was deeply affected - she had been devoted to him. One of Pitt's last requests had been that Parliament should settle an allowance on Lady Hester and her sisters. She decided that it would be therapeutic to travel abroad and it was her allowance which was to finance her excursion.

Travelling via Gibraltar, Malta, and Greece to Turkey, her party eventually arrived in Constantinople (now Istanbul). "Lady Hester very quickly carved herself a unique niche in the society of the Porte (the Ottoman Turkish government)," relates the author. "She was accepted by the Turkish ladies by virtue of being female, and was accepted by the Turkish men by virtue of being foreign, high-born and intelligent. Both sexes responded to her charm and good nature." The initial liking that the Turks had for Lady Hester soon increased to admiration and respect, and she began to be included in their circles to a degree totally unprecedented for a European woman.

Lady Hester and her entourage found the winter bitterly cold in Turkey and decided to move on to the Holy Lands. "As part of the vast Ottoman Empire that stretched all around the Eastern Mediterranean from Romania to Morocco," says Virginia Childs, "it had no specific internal boundaries in the early nineteenth century, and encompassed the present-day states of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan (the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip) and Israel. As well as being known as the Holy Lands it was also called the Levant, or Greater Syria, but whatever its name it was part of a continent almost wholly unexplored by Europeans. Lady Hester was going into what was largely unknown territory."

Surviving a shipwreck on the next stage of her travels, Lady Hester lost her baggage containing all her clothes. Unable to purchase European clothes, she decided to dress as a Turkish woman. If she had dressed as a Turkish woman, under Muslim tradition, she could not be seen to talk to a man and would have had to wear a veil when in public.



Lady Stanhope's arrival into Palmyra as recorded by an artist

Settling in Syria, Lady Hester felt an immediate and powerful affinity for the desert people, which was reciprocated. She felt that their pride, self-respect and independence in the face of poverty was the antithesis of the rich and corrupt Europeans who condemned her way of life.

"And so began the last great love of her life," writes Childs. "It started with the Bedu people (bedouin inhabitants of the area), and although it was not confined to them, they were the embodiment of all that she sought to embrace for the rest of her days. What she fell in love with was a strange mixture. It was honour and chivalry; it was freedom tempered with integrity. But since she was as used to life with leaders in Downing Street as she now was with Pashas in Syria, these high ideals were inevitably mixed with something perhaps more human: the spice and intrigue of power."

After five years of travelling, Lady Hester settled at Djoun in the Lebanon mountains. She had a constant stream of visitors and found a vocation in helping those who came to her, but to her chagrin her 'life-long' pension was rescinded by the British government. It had been the major part of her income, so the withdrawal was a devastating shock.

It was Lady Hester's fate to die alone and in poverty in Djoun - an ignominious ending for such a spirited woman. While she was ridiculed by some back in England for her eccentricity, a final obituary by an American missionary who attended her burial was apt. In his words: "She was wholly and magnificently unique."

"Lady Hester Stanhope: Queen of the Desert," Virginia Childs. Weidenfeld & Nicolson.

Bhutto starts first official visit to the Kingdom

AMMAN (Star) - Pakistani Prime Minister Mrs Benazir Bhutto will arrive in Amman Friday for talks with Jordanian officials on the Indo-Pakistani dispute over Kashmir, the situation in Afghanistan, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel as well as bilateral relations between Jordan and Pakistan.

Mrs Bhutto's visit to Jordan is part of a tour to eight Islamic countries including Iran, Turkey, Syria, North Yemen, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia.

Political observers have said that the aim of the tour was to rally support for Pakistan in its conflict with India, but Pakistani sources in Amman have asserted that the "journey of peace" is a manifestation of the continuous consultations among Muslim countries.

The Pakistani Ambassador to Amman Mr Tariq Khan Afridi told The Star in a telephone interview that the visit should not be seen as an effort by Pakistan to rally support against any third party.

He said that this is a time when the Muslim nation is facing many serious problems and the visit should be seen as part of continuous consultations among Muslim countries.

During her two-day visit to the Kingdom, Mrs Bhutto will meet with His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, and other senior officers.

Mr Afridi said that talks between Mrs Bhutto and Jordanian officials will also touch on economic co-operation between the two countries.

Jordan and Pakistan has a number of co-operation agreements in economic, cultural, scientific and tourism fields.

Jordanian exports of phosphate to Pakistan reach \$300 million annually while imports of Pakistani goods are estimated at \$ one million per year.

This is the first time that Mrs Bhutto visits Jordan since she resumed office in 2 December 1988.

Polish official concludes visit to Jordan

AMMAN (Star) - Mr K. Jakobszyn, director general of the Middle East Department at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations has recently concluded a three-day official visit to the Kingdom.

During the visit, Mr Jakobszyn held talks with senior officials at the ministries of trade and industry, and planning, on means of enhancing economic co-operation between Jordan and Poland.

The Polish official also met with the presidents of the chambers of commerce and industry.

17 MAY 1990

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to The Star

'Bronte' A stunning piece of theatre



A scene from the play

AMMAN - The new musical 'Bronte', which opened at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) this week is a stunning piece of theatre that will in due course be highly acclaimed wherever it is performed.

Written by Mrs Vanessa Barouni, Bronte has all the qualities to make it an enduring success. It is fastmoving and funny yet its underlying tones of loss and grief are truly real and moving. Mrs Barouni has succeeded in turning the tragic lives of the Bronte family into an entertaining and emotional theatrical experience by a clever combination of memorable poignant lyrics, brisk vivacious dialogues, brilliant choreography and an excellent musical score composed by Brenda Cooper.

Bronte opens as it ends with the death of Charlotte and continues as a series of flashbacks. As the curtain rises the audience is immediately aware of the grave outside the door. Her widowed husband of six months, Mr Nichols is being comforted by his fellow curates who pronounce that there is nothing like a cup of tea to help cleanse the soul of its grief. The laughter chillingly fades as the ghost of Emily, the author of "Wuthering Heights" appears and rattles like her heroin at the windows begging to be let in. As Mr Nichols rushes about in a frenzy of grief, the hair on the backs of our necks rises in horror. This scene epitomises those that follow.

Bronte is a play of memorable moments, such as the one when the Bronte children transform into their adult counterparts while the song "Turn Around" is

being performed. Standing back to back, the actors slowly revolve as the lyrics mourn the loss of innocence. The audience's emotions are not in any way being manipulated but are genuinely felt.

Another master touch is the publishers who treat the manuscripts of the sisters with all the respect of a party game. The brown paper parcel is tossed

from one to another as each pronounces his hasty judgement.

It is here as in many other parts that Mrs Barouni cleverly bridges the gap in time and space, so that the observer is able to witness actions of the present and the past at the same time. In this way she also allows the characters to be commentators on the main action of the play thereby sharing their feelings with the audience.

Throughout the play, Mrs Barouni makes subtle social comments of the times mostly through humour. In this way, the viewers are made aware of the important role religion played in 18th century England and the way women and children were suppressed.

Much of the humour is generated by the rebellious attitude of

both. By highlighting their drab, cold and lonely existence Mrs Barouni also reveals to the audience the source of the Bronte sisters' unique creativity which stemmed from their continually acting out their fantasies.

People who have watched Mrs Barouni's productions in the past will be familiar with many of the actors. In this musical, they turn in some professional performances.

Notable among these is David Thompson whose portrayal of the conceited and supercilious Mr Donne who always overstates his welcome is magnificent. Mr Thompson's meticulous attention to detail, his superb facial expressions and economy of movement quite simply steal the show.

Offsetting Mr Thompson's performance was that given by Nick Bowley who played the buffoon with subtlety and style. Good performances were also given by Lexi Haddadin as Charlotte, by Kay Mukhar as Emily, by Gaynor Peridakis as Anne, by Paul Laplante as Branwell, by Lurid Roddis as Aunt Branwell, by Sami Kamal as the Reverend Bronte, by Richard Hillebrand as Mr Malone and by Alan Dawson Hollis as Mr Nicholls. Amy Khoury, Maggie Kahari, Nafsa Khoury and Rand Hazon give delightful and mature performances as the younger Brontes.

Nawal Abdullah-Kattan's set, based on a doll's house, conveyed beautifully the cramped conditions of the Haworth Vicarage while at the same time giving the actors scope to utilise well what space there was. The changing pastel tones of the background lighting not only accentuate the sense of the period in which the play is set but also reflect the different emotions of each scene.

Five Jordanian artists display their work

Exhibition is a rich and stimulating experience

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to The Star

AMMAN - With over 110 pieces on display by five young Jordanian artists, the exhibition currently running at the Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery is a rich and stimulating experience that demands both time and thought. No hurried overview or quick whip round just to say you have been there will do for many of the works are arresting in their intricacy and in the fineness of their execution. You will find yourself pausing time and again to take a closer look.

It is this attention to detail that links the work of these artists together despite the fact that it ranges widely from total abstraction through collages to graphic realism.

These artists are also united in several other ways. All work hard at their art despite lack of consistent encouragement and the pressures of other commitments, which for most are full time jobs. This seriousness and dedication has in turn led to an early maturity in their work. Finally for all of them, their environment and background which they all seek to express are of vital importance.

Occupying the central space of the gallery are the quietly serene, meticulously crafted sculptures of Larissa Najjar. From local stone gathered from all over Jordan, Najjar has fashioned heads that draw on many sources for their inspiration. Some are almost classical in the fineness and symmetry of their features, the long aquiline noses, the large regular eyes and the perfectly formed mouths. Others are more mask like whose empty eyes have a strangely piercing gaze.

Through these, Najjar has followed a natural progression, to ultimately produce some more modern versions, using cubism as her base. In each case however, the end result is largely dictated by the stone itself as Najjar allows herself to be led by the stones' own natural angles and coloured veins. What further enhances the balance and harmony of these sculptures is Najjar's delicate workmanship which belies the rough texture and hardness of her material.

17 MAY 1990

The paintings and collages of Mohammad Samarra and Adnan Yehya are also marked by fine and intricate work, techniques at odds with their subject matter; Palestine and the Intifada, yet it is this delicacy that gives their work its power and appeal.

Of the work of the two, Samarra's is the more subtle. His small constructionist type collages consist of small groupings of tiny plants nailed together, of tent pegs holding down guide ropes,

of bits of buildings all of which float insubstantially in nebulous pools of pale blue touched with pink in which tiny birds fly. Sometimes the buildings are more complete and often they are being regarded by one tiny seemingly dispassionate observer - a man with his donkey, or a shepherd with one of his flock. Samarra's work speaks of hope, of rebuilding and rebirth.

In contrast to Samarra's optimistic, is Yehya's feeling of despair. Dark and bleak, his graphic depictions of the horrors endured daily by the Palestinians on the West Bank spare us nothing. Using the images relayed to us by the media, Yehya fills the lower half of his long vertical paintings with women weeping, with fleeing youths and with empty streets lined with battered houses starkly silhouetted against lurid Hiroshima skies.

Sometimes, the figures are jubilant, defiant but somehow these gestures seem to be born

more out of desperation than of victory. Contrasting and alleviating, the realism in each painting is seen through areas of rich abstraction or rather complex patterns made up of potent symbols such as the check of the kuffiyah, the scrawl of graffiti, and arrows, birds and the patterns used on the traditional Palestinian dress.

Like the work of Yehya, the tiny china ink paintings of Rula Shukairy are dark, and full of intricate details. But there any similarity ends for her work is based on Jordan's magnificent landscapes; the towering cliffs and tiny huddled villages. Technically very interesting, Shukairy seems to scrape away the top layers of her paintings to reveal luminous tones hidden beneath. Thus dark greens turn into transparent turquoise, rich browns into deep siennas and in so doing they create the depths now characteristic of her work.

Over these colours Shukairy applies spidery lines that trace and accentuate any natural contours formed. Some of these lines are in turn transformed into tiny houses that jostle against each other, their odd angles emphasising the dynamism of the receding colours. In her more recently executed pieces the tiny structures are replaced by larger more geometric areas of brighter

colours giving us a hint of work yet to come.

The exhibition is completed by the very spontaneous and vigorous abstracts of Ghada Dahdaleh. Again, like Shukairy, Dahdaleh has a preference for deep dark tones which generally form squares in the centre of her work. Escaping from under their edges are touches of bright colours which are once again contained by a frame of energetically applied charcoal. By using a wide selection of different media, Dahdaleh achieves an immensely satisfying aged and weathered texture in many of her pieces.

Several of these pieces resemble sections of old walls whose colours have been worn away by the elements and time; an idea given further credence by the presence of a mysterious door that entices one to speculate on the dark possibilities to which it leads.

Full of unconscious symbolism, Dahdaleh's work is powerfully evocative. Her command of her media, her unhesitating confidence and her uniquely mature ability to know instinctively what is right ensures her art will be appreciated as much 10 years from now, as it is today.

The exhibition runs until 6 June.

THE STAR 7



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Pakistan International

Welcomes



Her Excellency
Mrs. Benazir Bhutto
Prime Minister of Pakistan
on Her Visit to Jordan

Immigrants aid to 'shrinking societies'

By Michele Bresson
Special to The Star

PARIS - The decline in the ratio of indigenous young people in European populations and the increase in numbers of the elderly means the continent faces twin crises: a slowdown of growth and a run on resources to sustain expensive welfare systems looking after ageing communities.

These problems have been addressed somewhat by the influx of immigrants from the developing world and, in more recent months, from eastern Europe to the industrial economies of the west. But the issues remain largely unresolved, enmeshed as they are in national politics, prejudices against immigration and a general refusal of politicians to face realities head-on.

To admit that the immigrants have actually made a positive, long-term contribution to European societies would be nothing short of political suicide for many politicians who are having to compromise across the board with racialist pressure groups.

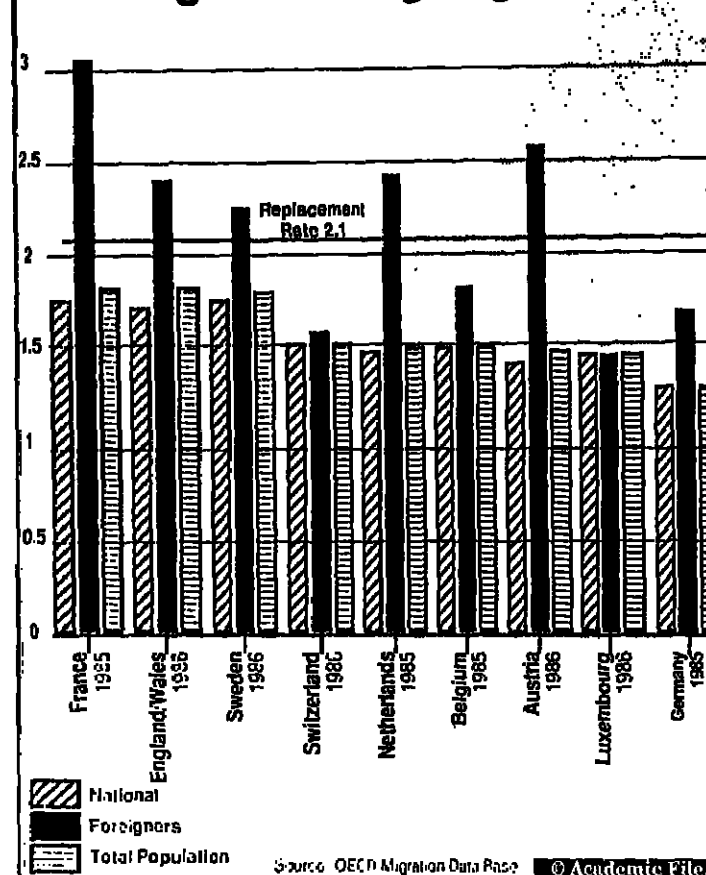
Europe is in the throes of an upsurge of racism at the same time, ironically, as it is reaping the fruits of cheap and easy manpower made available by the postwar influx of immigrants. No political group or organisation in its right mind is likely to come up forcefully enough, for example, with the argument that the immigrants have played a major part in building up modern Europe and that they should continue to play that role - unhindered by neo-Nazi, nationalist or other narrow-minded individuals or groups.

But the demographic dilemma is already a reality for exports concerned with the future development of the continent, as indicated by recent studies made by the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Daniel Blot, a specialist in international migration in the OECD's directorate for social affairs, manpower and education, wrote recently that alternatives to large-scale migration from developing countries could include training and induction of more women into the work force and pushing up the age of retirement. Will these suffice to meet the needs of the dynamic economies of western Europe? No-one seems certain.

The influx of immigrants from the developing world or East European countries into Europe is usually regarded as a negative development, but experts now are beginning to recognise that the postwar arrivals have contributed to keeping the average age of population slow and provided the industrial economies with much needed manpower. Can that trend economic prosperity continue while governments slap new controls on immigrations?

Foreigners in Ageing Europe



Although European businesses are working towards those solutions, progress is slow. Whether the politicians recognise it or not, the role that immigrants play in the economic sustenance of Europe may not easily be substituted. In the view of some experts, early fears that eastern European will eventually push out immigrant workers from the developing countries have also proved unfounded.

"The immigrants from afar are more skilled in their jobs than those from near," said one specialist. "You could say they are almost indispensable. They are good value for money even when they are employed as unskilled labour."

As Blot indicates, although admitting more migrants can offset

the aging of the indigenous population, it is not likely to be done as readily now as before. Most immigrants to Europe are in the process of being absorbed into mainstream societies. As a result their impact on the demographic patterns in Europe is deep and long-lasting and thus has warranted closer scrutiny.

A recent study on the effect of postwar migration on developed countries by the demographer, Herve le Bras, found that without immigration the population of developed countries would have shrunk at varying rates. The new arrivals reversed that somewhat, but over the past three decades the death rate has declined not just among the indigenous elderly but also among the aged immigrants. The state

liability for social welfare therefore has reached new heights.

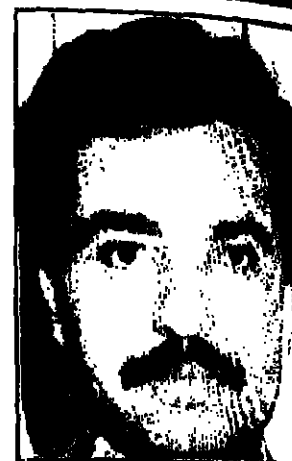
In the European experience are lessons for high-income oil states of the Middle East, which have both immigrant labour and generous welfare programmes, and for middle-income countries of South and Southeast Asia, where population control is top of the agenda most of the time, often to the detriment of long-term demographic strategies.

Added to the effect that new controls on non-European immigration will have on demography of the continent, some European countries are actually headed for population decrease. In Germany, for example, population is forecast to decline from 61 to 47 million by the year 2030.

A recent meeting of OECD experts concluded that unless a meaningful solution was found to reverse trends in aging populations the present-day dynamic economies of Europe could face serious problems in the near future.

As Blot observed in a recent study in the OECD Observer, "migration has an energy of its own, which the introduction of erratic immigration measures would do nothing to regulate. Selective immigration policies would slow down the natural population adjustment, while serving to slow the progress of internal measures of bringing in population, such as women, into the labour market. 'There are no quick or easy remedies to alleviate the situation,' he warns.

"It seems the conclusive course of action, of admitting a steady number of immigrants in relation to the size of the population, will not be without its difficulties. Politicians will have to gain public support, and introduce measures regarding the assimilation process. It will not be an easy path to follow, but the alternative, of facing possible economic failure, is one that countries will have to consider."



Dr Ahmad Majdoubeh

America's leading poet translated into Arabic

By a Star Staff Writer

Dr AHMAD Al Majdoubeh, professor of English and American literature at Yarmouk University, has recently translated 51 poems from the works of the American poet Wallace Stevens.

The translation was published by Jordan Book Centre by arrangement with ALFRED A. KNOPF Inc.

Wallace Stevens, 1895-1955, is currently gaining great deal of popularity in both Britain and the United States where he is being introduced as America's most leading poet.

"In my opinion," says Dr Majdoubeh, "Wallace Stevens is as good as T.S. Eliot, and I hope he will leave the same impact. T.S. Eliot left on Arab readers and writers."

Dr Majdoubeh says he hopes that as time goes by and as Arab readers become acquainted with Stevens' poems, some mark will be left on the emerging modern poetic trends in the Arab World.

As for his translation of some of the works of Stevens whose voice he has "always felt was so unique and distinguished," Dr Majdoubeh says that he tried to be faithful to the poet and did not intend to beautify or rewrite his poems.

"I tried to translate Stevens as he really is. He himself wants his words to be ordinary and not poetic," Dr Majdoubeh says.

ECONOMY

The Star

Jordanian-Italian venture to create 'Jordalia' fashions

By Pam Dougherty
Special to The Star



Fashions from Amman?

ITALY IS building major selling centres for clothing with the aim of becoming the clothing distribution centre of Europe after 1991 and two businessmen, one Jordanian and the other Italian, are hoping that Jordan will have a share in Italy's success.

Jordanian clothing manufacturer Gaby Makdah and Italian buying agent Luigi Cosignani are now forming a joint venture company to be known as 'Jordalia' to co-ordinate the production of ready made clothing in Jordan for sale in the European market. They plan to provide styles, patterns and technical supervision for local companies and then sell their production in Europe under the Jordalia label.

The Jordalia venture is an early success story from a trade mission to Europe organised in January. The mission was part of a two and a half year export development and diversification project being carried out by the Jordan Commercial Centres Corp. (JCCC) with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) support. It included representatives of six clothing factories and one travel bags manufacturer who visited the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden and Holland to meet clothing buyers and importers including Mr Cosignani.

Mr Cosignani has long experience working with Italian manufacturers to supply markets throughout Western Europe and believes Jordanian companies can find a place in a market which offers almost unlimited possibilities.

At present Italian factories are working overtime to meet demand and are turning to companies in Turkey, Yugoslavia, Hungary, the Maghreb and the Far East to cover their needs. Now Jordan should be able to join them.

Mr Cosignani sees very good reasons why Jordanian companies should want to explore the possibilities of exports under the Jordalia flag. At present the four or five largest clothing factories have a dominant role in the local market leaving little scope for small and medium scale producers. On their own these small producers are unlikely to find their way from Jordan and into what is a very complex and competitive market, but with Jordalia, he says they stand a good chance.

Mr Cosignani believes that the large companies may also find one day that the local market is not enough and will need new outlets.

All companies have the advantage that Jordanian products can enter EC countries and Sweden duty free which makes them competitive with South East Asian goods even though production costs in Jordan are higher. Mr Cosignani emphasises that it won't be easy and that Jordanian manufacturers have a lot to learn.

He says their first lesson is to understand what he calls the "wardrobe theory" which says that most Europeans now have full wardrobes and they buy new clothes because they want them not because they need them. This means that fashion rather than price is the deciding factors in their choice.

And once they get the fashion right, manufacturers must be able to produce goods exactly how and when they are ordered - European buyers have no time for sloppy production or missed delivery dates. In this area Mr Makdah is hoping that the company can get some support to bring a good quality control expert to Jordan to help factories organise their production and ensure that it meets standards.

The Jordalia partners are hoping to launch their venture with orders for 50,000-60,000 pairs of trousers and 50,000-60,000 shirts to be delivered by the end of July and orders for a total of 1.2 million pieces of clothing, worth around \$12 million, in the

first year. If the programme works well this should then rise to 2 million pieces, worth around \$20 million.

The order would give a healthy boost to Jordan's clothing factories many of which are small but have considerable unused capacity as a legacy of the rapid industrial expansion during the early 1980s industrial boom and collapse.

According to Chamber of Industry figures Jordan has 180 clothing manufacturers of whom only around 50 employ more than 15 workers and 10-15 are of industrial dimensions with 150-180 staff. Export promotion expert Francesco Geoffroy who led the January trade mission says that with their spare capacity, their skilled workers and an improving idea of the need for good quality control these companies have a good potential to begin producing seriously for the export market. What the industry needs now, he says, is a real fashion sense.

Mr Geoffroy is also optimistic on the prospects for Jordanian travel goods manufacturers. He says at present Europe is buying from manufacturers in Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Thailand but their labour costs have risen 200-300 per cent in the past 2-3 years and, with its exemption from European duties, Jordan is now in a competitive position on prices. Its small factories are also more flexible than their large Asian rivals and should be able to produce quickly for a market that enjoys a rapid turnover.

Briefs

By Ahmad Shaker

● A study is being conducted by the Government to evaluate the possibility of setting up a coastal storage station for liquid materials at Aqaba port. The private sector will be allowed to establish reservoirs for imported liquid materials like lubricants. Another proposal is being studied to adjust fees charged by the Aqaba port in accordance with fees charged by other Arab ports.

● The Ministry of Trade and Industry will conduct a survey to identify elementary and intermediate materials used in local industries to present it to the Department of Customs in order to adjust or cancel taxes levied on these imported products to make Jordanian-made products more competitive abroad.

● Jordan will export US Dollars 2.5 million worth of fruits and vegetables to the Soviet Union between December 1990 and April 1991 as part of a settlement of Jordan's foreign debts to Moscow amounting to US Dollars 10 million. An agreement has been reached to settle these debts on four-year term.

● An independent department for new investments is being contemplated by the Government. The new department will be responsible for finalising all administrative and governmental paperwork on behalf of investors to save time and encourage more foreign investments into the country.

● The Government is studying a proposal to issue a ration card to provide the minimum quantity of basic staples to citizens. The private sector will then be allowed to import unlimited quantities of these staples to be sold at international prices. A suggestion calls for allocating 1.5 kilograms of rice and similar quantity of sugar to each individual monthly. The proposed ration card should, if approved, be adopted on 1 January 1991 and will last for three years only.

RENT

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Continued on page 11

Details of new foreign business law

AMMAN (Star) - The Ministry of Trade and Industry has completed its work on the proposed law on regulating foreign business in Jordan, which will organise foreign investments in the country especially the setting up of commercial, industrial, agricultural, land, marine and air transport projects. The proposed law will be referred to the Lower House in its extraordinary session for approval.

Invested foreign capital in any project is: Any foreign currency amount transferred by a foreign person into the Kingdom through one of the licensed banks to be used in establishing any project or in expanding any project; foreign machinery, equipment and transport means necessary to establish any project; or to develop it, the values of which are assessed by a committee appointed by the minister; profits and interests generated by any project, whether added on to the project capital or invested in another project, provided the minister approves either cases.

A person is allowed to engage in commercial and contracting business, as well as in land, sea and air transport business, provided his share or the value of his shareholding in any

Jordanian firm are not less than JD 200,000 and that his share or that value of his shareholdings do not exceed 49 per cent of the firm's capital.

Foreign capital invested by any foreign person is treated equal to the Jordanian capital invested by any Jordanian person in any of the following sectors and provided that his share or the value of his/her shareholdings are not less than JD 100,000: industry, tourism, tourist services and travel and tourism agencies; education; health; agriculture; housing and building projects in organised areas within municipal boundaries; and export services.

The criteria for engaging in the business of small industries and professional shops by a foreign person are set by the cabinet upon the minister's recommendation.

A foreign person is permitted to engage in any of the following businesses, provided that he transfer, in convertible foreign currency, into the Kingdom not less than JD 25,000 and provided that other laws and regulations in the Kingdom are respected. Participate in tender bids and contracts released to invite international bidders, as well as implement projects awarded to them under such business; and carry out studies and educational and technical consulting activities.

Any foreign person permitted to engage in any business in the Kingdom should transfer, in convertible foreign currency, into the Kingdom, and through a licensed bank or a financial company, his capital or the value of his shareholding before he engages in any business in the Kingdom.

If the foreign person is a shareholder in a public shareholding company, the Minister may break down the value of the transfer in accordance with the company's internal charter.

Arab national are allowed to buy securities (shares) listed on the Amman Financial Market in any convertible currency, whether in Jordanian or foreign currencies, and have the right to sell these securities and transfer their values through a bank or a financial company in accordance with the CBI instructions.

It is permitted to transfer shares or shareholdings in any company in the Kingdom from a Jordanian person to a foreign person.

To transfer ownership of shares or shareholdings to a foreign person, they should be transferred in convertible foreign currency through a bank or a fi-

nancial company, except when the transfer takes place between two foreign persons residing outside the Kingdom.

Arab Nationals are exempted from the provisions of para. A (of the law) with regard to the transfer of ownership and values of shares listed on the Amman Financial Market.

It is permitted to transfer or repatriate any capital, profits or interests owned by a foreign person out of the Kingdom in accordance with the CBI regulations.

A non-Jordanian firms is not permitted to announce subscription for its shares or corporate bonds inside the Kingdom, whether directly or through another person in any way which also includes the local papers and the media, and trading in such shares and bonds is not allowed.

Arab countries are exempted from the provisions of para. A if they permit the announcement of subscription for shares and private corporate bonds by Jordanian firms inside their boundaries, provided the Ministry of Industry and Trade approves this announcement in coordination with the CBI and the Amman Financial Market in any of such

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	US	DEM	STG	Yen	SFR
1 mo.	8.1/8	7.7/8	14.15/16	7.15	8.11/16
2 mo.	8.3/16	8.00	15.1/16	7.21	8.11/16
3 mo.	8.1/4	8.1/8	15.1/8	7.18	8.5/8
6 mo.	8.1/2	8.11/16	15.3/16	7.28	8.5/8
1 year	8.5/8	8.13/16	15.1/4	7.31	8.3/4

Interbank rates (Jordan):
Savings accounts 7%. Call accounts 8%, 1 week 8.0%,
1 month 8.00%, 2 months 8.25%, 3 months 8.50%, 1 year
9.0%. Lending rate (AAA) 12.5%.

Dollar:

DMK	SFR	STG	YEN	CAN	FFR
LAST 1.6478/88	1.3990/00	1.6755/65	150.78/83	1.1800/13	5.5555/85

Source: Amman Bank for Investment, Tel: 642701

Rule-of-thumb

According to the Companies Law, companies which shall be registered in accordance with this law shall take one of the following forms: a. General Partnership; b. Limited Partnership; c. Private Limited by Shares;

d. Partnership Limited by Shares; e. Public Shareholding Company.

Companies which are formed in the Kingdom under agreements concluded between the Government of Jordan and the government of any other country, the joint Arab companies emerging from the Arab League or the institutions and organisations affiliated therewith shall be registered with the controller in a special register to be designed for this purpose. The aforementioned companies shall be governed by the provisions and terms stipulated in this law and in their articles in all the cases and for all the issues which are not stipulated in the agreements and contracts under which the said companies were registered.

Companies operating in the Jordanian free zones shall be registered with the controller pursuant to this law and shall be subjected to the provisions thereof whether the said companies are Jordanian or foreign. The companies shall be registered in a special register designed for this purpose and the registration of the company shall be distinguished by adding the phrase "Jordanian Free Zones" to their registration certificates. Additionally, their documents, stationary and correspondence shall be headed by this phrase along with their names.

Civil companies which take one of the forms stipulated in this law shall be registered with the controller in a special register therefore called the (Civil Companies Register). The said companies shall be subjected to the provisions of the enforced civil law provided that its registration and any change made thereto shall be subjected to the provisions stipulated in this law.

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Made-in-Jordan

Following are addresses of importers in the Netherlands that might be interested in Jordanian fresh fruits and vegetables

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2. Alfro B.V. Zuideinde 57 A, Postbus 15, 2990 AA Barendrecht. Tel: 01806-17277 Tlx: 28577 Fax: 01806-16666	5. Jan v.d. Brink B.V. Marconistraat 19, Postbus 6179, 3002 AD Rotterdam. Tel: 010-4766122 Tlx: 21477 Fax: 010-4255415

For further information on importers of fresh fruits and vegetables in the Netherlands, please contact the Jordan Trade Association, P.O. Box 830432 Amman-Jordan, Tel: 685603/4.

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21 ct	7,500
18 ct	6,500
Eng. pound	
8g	62,000
Rashad:	
7g	54,500
24ct (swiss)	9,500
Silver	
1 kg	160,000

Money Matters

Average exchange rates on in Jls		
Sunday 13/5/1990		
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£	1118.0	1124.7
DM	406.8	409.2
Sfr	475.9	478.8
FRF	120.4	121.1
YEN	435.6	438.2
(100)		
DFL	361.7	363.9
SKR	111.0	111.7
LIT	55.1	55.4
(100)		
BLF	197.0	198.2
(10)		

Consumer Watch

Domestic vs. imported

THE COMPETITION to preferential shopping of the imported is no longer justifiable. We are able to rely and trust domestic goods, since we have an economic goal to achieve. A random Star survey indicated that four out of 10 prefer to purchase imported goods, just because they are prestigious from a social stand point. Six out of 10 purchased imported goods because they seek quality and durability.

The Star 10-shopper survey revealed that seven out of 10 lacked the proper education on domestic goods. They were unable to believe that a domestic household commodity is as good and durable as the imported commodity. Most of them were concerned about the durability and service criteria in a household good. They all voiced their concern about a dear dinar, and agreed that the dinar's present value still buy's something compared to a less future value. They looked for the best their money can buy. According to traders, the consumer is mistaken when he/she starts mixing the present and future values of his money with the quality and durability of the commodity in demand. Traders believed that domestic goods were better than imported goods for many reasons. The traders' argument justify an effort on the consumer's part to start confiding in domestic goods. The difference in price is clear, however, while the difference in quality and durability needs further study and research.

Business Notes

Improving productivity is the goal

THE INDUSTRIAL Management and Engineering (IME) profession is a bridge between management and business operations in much of the Western world and in academia. "Industrial" is frequently referred to as industrial engineering. "Industrial" is a holdover from the origins of this service in industry, specifically in manufacturing. Today IME is also practised in many types of businesses and industries other than manufacturing.

IME is concerned with productivity in the broadest sense. High productivity is a result of doing the right things and doing things right. This provides for a quality product or service at low cost.

For example, IME analysis deals with product productivity or service deliverability. It asks the question as to whether some changes in the product make it easier to produce, or changes in paper work make it easier to process. "Easier," in these cases, means lower costs and better quality—thus higher productivity.

"The successful use of IME services in business requires a management committed to change. This is not always easy to cause the implications is that management is doing things wrong now. The sophisticated manager is willing to face up to this because he is seeking to continuously improve his operation," according to Osama Q. Daoud, IME counterpart of the PSD programme in Amman. This means that proper utilisation of time and resources in industry calls for shifting to management which concentrates on integrating systems of people, equipment, materials, information and energy.

Industrial Estates

Arab Co. for Porcelain Industries

Location: Amman Industrial Estate / Sahab
Invested capital: JD 3.5 million
Number of workers: 92
Starting production date: Beginning of 1990

Type of production:
- Wall ceramic with a yearly production of 1 million M2 and exporting about 35% to Arab countries.
- Ceramic skirts with a yearly production of 200,000 M2 a year and exporting about 10%.

The company's products compete with European ones in terms of quality. The company is working on exporting its products to Arab Gulf countries, USSR and to countries of the Arab Co-operation Council.

Arab Co. for Porcelain Industries
Tel: 722629
P.O. Box: (114)
Amman Industrial Estate / Sahab

Arab Weavers Factory Company

Location: Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab
Starting production date: End of 1989
Invested capital: JD 1.5 million
Number of workers: 100

Type of production:
The factory produces 750,000 sq. m. of rugs annually in different sizes and shapes and exports around 30% to Iraq and Gulf countries. The company is interested in exporting to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen, USA and East European Countries.

Arab Weavers Factory Co.
P.O. Box: (3369) Amman
Tel: 7227923; 816243

Shows & Exhibitions

MEMOSS 91 and 92

THE MIDDLE EAST Maritime and Offshore Services Show.

1991: October 27 - 31, 1991 in Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia.
1992: November 1 - 5, 1992, Sharjah, U.A.E.

Covering ship operation and management, maritime services, freight and cargo handling, offshore services and related activities.

Contracts and contacts

- Civil Aviation Authority, T9/90, teleprinter spare parts, JD 5, 14/5/1990.

- Ministry of Supplies, 27/90, 26,000 tonnes of sugar, JD 25, 23/5/1990.

- Ministry of Education, 17/90, napkins, JD 1; 18/90, publications, JD 1; 20/90, milk testing equipment, JD 1; 28/90, black walter suits, JD 1; 29/90 chemicals, JD 1; 30/90, maintenance and sanitary materials, JD 1; 15/5/1990, 15/5/1990, 14/5/1990, 14/5/1990, 15/5/1990 and 15/5/1990 respectively.

- Tafleh Governorate/ Directorate of Works, paving and asphaltting of roads, 3 tenders, JD 10 each, 21/5/1990.

- Arab Potash Co., SH/B/24/89, construction of pre-fab, office buildings (area: 240 sq.m), JD 5, 20/5/1990.

- Royal Jordanian, 53/90, maintenance hangar, deadline extended until 2/6/1990.

- Ministry of Supply, 28/90, transporting 52,000 tons of corn from U.S. ports, 21/5/1990.

- University of Science and Technology, 19/90, laboratory equipment for the Mechanical Engineering Division, JD 25, 17/6/1990.

- Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., 108/90, maintenance workshops at Aqaba complex, deadline extended until 26/6/1990 instead of 26/5/1990.

- Civil Aviation Authority, 12/90, construction of wall at the Amman Civil Airport, JD 10, 20/5/1990.

- Zerqa Governorate, agricultural roads, 3 tenders, JD 15, JD 15 and JD 10 respectively, 21/5/1990.

- General Supplies Dept., 112/90 agricultural fertilizers, JD 10, 9/6/1990; 147/90, gas ovens and refrigerators, JD 7, 29/5/1990; 150/90, vet. laboratory supplies, JD 10, 2/6/1990; 151/90, stationary and supplies, JD 5, 29/5/1990; 153/90, video tapes, JD 2, 5/6/1990; 160/90, educational movies, JD 4, 5/6/1990; 163/90, laboratory equipment, JD 5, 4/6/1990; 165/90, nursing education equipment, JD 4, 5/6/1990; 166/90, household electrical appliances, JD 15, 2/6/1990.

- Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co., 55/90, valves, JD 5; 56/90, welding bars, JD 5; 57/90, tires and tubes, JD 5; 59/90, oil can sheets, JD 5; 17/6/1990.

- General Supplies Dept., 110/90, teleprinter paper, JD 4, 19/5/1990; 125/90, pure alcohol, JD 4, 19/5/1990; 139/90, pro-

jectors for the blood bank, JD 30, 11/6/1990; 159/90, laboratory projectors, JD 20, 11/6/1990; 152/90, industrial education books, JD 2, 28/5/1990.

- Amman Municipality, tyres, JD 10, 28/5/1990; gravel, JD 20, 21/5/1990; hot asphalt mix, JD 160, 21/5/1990.

- General Supplies Dept., 83/90, stationery, JD 25, 28/5/1990; 84/90, Mercedes truck spare parts, JD 2, 22/5/1990; 132/90, wood furniture for libraries, JD 5, 21/5/1990; 133/90, laboratory vet. equipment, JD 3, 12/6/1990; 135/90, furniture, JD 4, 22/5/1990; 137/90, educational equipment, JD 6, 29/5/1990.

- Ministry of Planning, consulting firms to study the White Cement Industries Company's situation and feasibility of production, 10/6/1990.

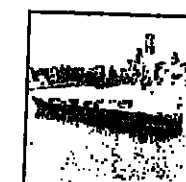
- UNRWA/Engineering Division, 20/90, health training center in Wadi El-Sair, JD 5, 28/5/1990.

- Um Al-Basateen Municipality, asphalt mix with adhesive surface, 20/5/1990.

- Ministry of Education, 31/90, revolving desk chairs, JD 1, 19/5/1990; 32/90, metal desk, JD 1, 19/5/1990;

UAE races to the top in Mideast

DUBAI Seaports in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are fast



overtaking their Saudi Arabian counterparts in the league of top container ports in the Middle East and Red Sea region.

In a significant reshuffle, Dubai's Port Rashid has beaten Saudi Arabia's Jeddah port for the top place in the league of container handlers in the Middle East/Red Sea and Fujairah port has piped Dammam port for the third place.

Port Rashid handled 645,000 TEUs last year compared to Jeddah's 590,000 TEUs.

Port Rashid's figure represented a 15.7 per cent year-on-year increase, while Jeddah's was down by 0.8 per cent.

In 1989, Fujairah handled 260,000 TEUs while Dammam handled 202,000 TEUs. Fujairah's figure was up by 28.1 per cent from its 1988 level. While Dammam's was down by 3 per cent.

Details of new foreign business law

Continued from page 9

- A foreign person is permitted to invest in housing and building projects provided this is approved by the Prime Minister.

- A foreign person is not permitted to purchase agricultural lands.

- Arab nationals are exempted from the provisions of para's A and B.

- Nationalisation or confiscation of projects is not permitted and it is not permitted to seize, freeze, or confiscate the funds of such projects unless the courts of law.

- Violators of this law will be fined for not less than JD 500 and not more than JD 5,000, or sentenced by imprisonment for not less than one month and not more than six months, or both if the violation is repeated.

- The provisions of this law do not apply to foreign persons already engaging in business in the Kingdom under their personal name, on behalf of others, or by acting for other persons, or already participated or held shares in a local firm prior to this law.

- Defence regulation No. 51 of 1978 and its subsequent amendments, and defence regulation No. 27 of 1986 are void as of date this law goes into effect.

Saudi Arabia to launch \$10 billion-\$15 billion oil project

SIX OF the world's largest engineering and construction firms were on hand in Houston, Texas, on 21 March, to meet with officials of Saudi Aramco, the Saudi Arabian government's oil-producing company.

The topic of discussion: a new multibillion-dollar Saudi plan to boost production capacity and restore it to the golden days of the late 1970s. Observers say that Aramco, which was once owned by American oil giants Exxon, Chevron, Texaco and Mobil, will probably award most engineering and construction management contracts to US companies.

The Houston conference was attended by US-based Bechtel, Fluor, ABB Lummus Crest, MW Kellogg and Parsons. In addition, the British subsidiary of the Clinton, New Jersey-based Foster Wheeler Corp. was also present to hear about Saudi Arabia's ambitious new programme.

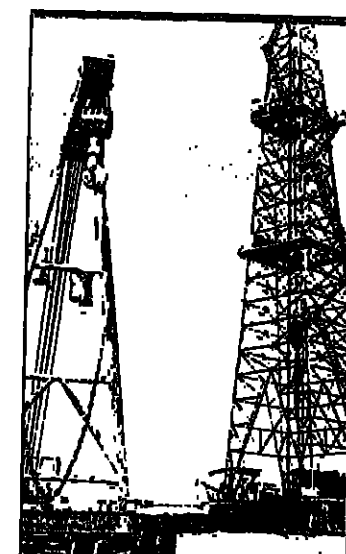
The way the Saudis see it, the 1990s will be a seller's market for oil. But the Middle East's largest oil producer also wants to ensure stable oil prices and avoid a repeat of the price hikes of 1973-1974 and 1979-1980.

Saudi Arabia is fearful of price increases for several reasons. The kingdom is worried that a sharp increase in prices would lead to trouble because slow economic growth in industrialised nations might depress demand for OPEC crude. "They don't want to see prices being pushed up too much," said John H. Lichtblau, president of the New York-based Petroleum Industry Research Foundation.

World-wide demand for OPEC oil has increased from 17.5 million barrels per day (b/d) in 1985 to 24 million b/d in 1989. Since 1989, OPEC production has grown at an average rate of 1.2 billion b/d in order to meet demand for its oil. But poor investment during the mid-1980s resulted in a decline in OPEC's production capacity.

The large-scale Saudi project is designed to enable the kingdom to both meet the growing demand for OPEC oil and prevent another oil shock. In the early 1980s, OPEC was attempting to defend prices in the thirty-dollar range. But Saudi Arabia learned that such a strategy ran a high risk of losing markets in an irreparable way. High prices created competition from non-OPEC suppliers as well as competitors from within the cartel. Saudi Arabia was burned by these risks from 1981-1985, says Edward D. Porter, senior economist at the American Petroleum Institute (API) of Washington, DC. "The question is: how firmly a lesson was learned?" asks Porter, referring to financially tempting short-run gains from price increases.

Saudi Arabia's present capacity for oil production is 7 million barrels per day (b/d). But Lichtblau says that new targets have been set for the 1990s. The government is aiming to produce 8.4 million b/d before 1995 and 10 million b/d in 1997. Other OPEC countries in the region have also stated their interest in expanding production capacity. But Saudi Arabia "is making the most effort, has set specific targets and



Oil: Another boom coming

has appropriated funds for expanding capacity," explained Lichtblau.

The first phase of the new agenda is geared toward boosting production capacity by 25% by 1995. By enhancing production capacity, Saudi Arabia would be able to gain negotiating power with customers and other OPEC countries.

The kingdom's 1989 crude oil production of 5.1 million b/d compared to Iraq's 2.8 million b/d left Saudi Arabia clearly ahead in terms of its ability to pump oil on a daily basis. But according to Porter, the two Arab nations' rivalry recently centred on reserves. Saudi Arabia announced that its reserves have climbed from 170 billion barrels to 260 billion barrels. In 1988, Iraq claimed that its reserves had risen to 100 billion barrels from a

1972 level of 87 billion barrels. A few weeks ago, the Iraqi Oil Minister, Issam Abdul Rahim Al Shalabi, said that Iraq had underestimated its reserves and that its resources potential might exceed Saudi Arabia's. Two days later, the kingdom promptly announced that it discovered new reserves near Riyadh, the capital.

Details surrounding the Saudi plan have not been disclosed yet. But one thing is clear: Oil importers and US contractors are likely to enjoy the kind of profits which were attained in the late 1970s. "Business prospects are good for the first half of the 1990s," says Dominick Trupia, manager of marketing and strategic planning at ABB Lummus Crest. "We expect opportunities for our company." Parsons' Hodely says that there will be opportunities because "the Gulf is starting to loosen up and money is starting to flow."

According to an Aramco source, contracts will probably be awarded in the second half of June. At this point, the interested companies are in the bidding stage. Oil industry analysts say the final cost of the new plan will be between \$10 billion and \$15 billion. The initial phase, pegged at \$6 billion, will increase capacity by about 25%, to 10 million b/d by 1995.

The six companies that attended the Houston conference will first be bidding on three engineering and project-management contracts worth an estimated \$200 million each. The three winning firms will each have to be the source of roughly 300 expatriate engineers and other pro-

fessionals. They will be filling the void left by Aramco, which sent thousands of Americans home as production dropped from a 1980 high of 10 million b/d to about 5 million b/d today.

The initial Saudi increases will not occur until late 1991 and it appears that the kingdom will be the only source of new oil. Iran and Iraq claim that they will increase capacity by 700,000 b/d. But neither country has a steady flow of cash and both are avoiding dependence on Western oil companies, leaving the two former enemies thus far unable to launch expansion projects.

New trends will also translate into increased US-Saudi interdependency. The US is the world's largest oil importer and Saudi Arabia is the largest exporter. In 1989, the 1.1 million b/d imports of Saudi crude was the source of 19% of total US crude imports and comprised 36% of total Saudi exports, according to New York's Petroleum Industry Research Foundation. This year both amounts are expected to rise. Saudi Arabia provides the US with 1.2 million barrels of oil each day. In 1989, Saudi Arabia led the list of oil exports to the US. That year, nearly 50% of total US imports of Saudi crude were purchased by Star Enterprise, a marketing and refining joint venture between Saudi Arabia and Texaco. The company purchased 539 million b/d in 1989, becoming the largest importer of Saudi crude.

Our Say...

Diplomatic offensive shouldn't wane

AS EFFORTS towards convening the proposed extraordinary Arab summit in Baghdad before the end of this month continue, a diplomatic offensive by a number of Arab leaders has been launched with the aim of gathering international support for Arab causes at this very delicate and critical stage of our times.

Egyptian President Mr Hosni Mubarak is currently in London on the third leg of a very successful tour which took him to China and the Soviet Union. The Egyptian leader briefed officials in the two countries on the latest developments concerning the Palestinian problem and the circumstances under which the Arab summit will be held. And in both Peking and Moscow, Mr Mubarak was assured that the two nations stand firm in their support of Palestinian rights.

Mr Mubarak's visit coincided with another tour by Palestinian President Mr Yasser Arafat that took him to a number of Asian countries including China.

Meanwhile, high-level contacts between Iraq and Iran are continuing with the hope of holding a meeting between the leaders of the two countries to draw plans for resolving the border conflict between the two neighbours in addition to other standing problems such as the exchange of prisoners of war and normalising bilateral relations.

In the shadow of these diplomatic activities is the June superpower summit between Mr Gorbachev and US President Mr George Bush. The Arab summit, scheduled to take place a few days before the two superpower leaders meet, will aim at presenting to world public opinion a unified Arab stand on a number of issues foremost among which are the Palestinian rights and the threat that the Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine poses to regional stability.

In order for it to succeed, the proposed Arab summit will have to be different from previous summits. The present regional instabilities will only become more critical as time passes unless the Arab leaders are successful in adopting a clear strategy to overcome the many dangers facing the nation.

The upcoming Baghdad summit will have to shift its focus from rhetorical statements to direct action. The current onslaught against Iraq, the continuing suppression of the Palestinian Intifada and the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants into the area are not mere passing threats. They are parts of a well-thought out scheme that aims to further weaken the Arab political, economic and technological will. Full Arab presence at the summit is therefore essential to give Arab resolutions a spirit of unanimity and essence.

Current Arab attempts to bring Syria to the summit should not stop. Whatever bilateral problems that Syria and Iraq may have should be put aside for the moment. The dangers that are looming pose serious threats to all Arab countries. The issues at hand are of common concern to all members of the Arab League.

Against such backdrop, Arab diplomatic offensive should not wane especially since any Arab action will greatly depend for its effectiveness on international backing.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Victims of real estate 'bonanza'

To the editor:

I fully agree with the opinion voiced in your real estate stories (the Economy section, The Star 10-16 May) that resident Jordanians are the only victims of the "bonanza" in the real estate market.

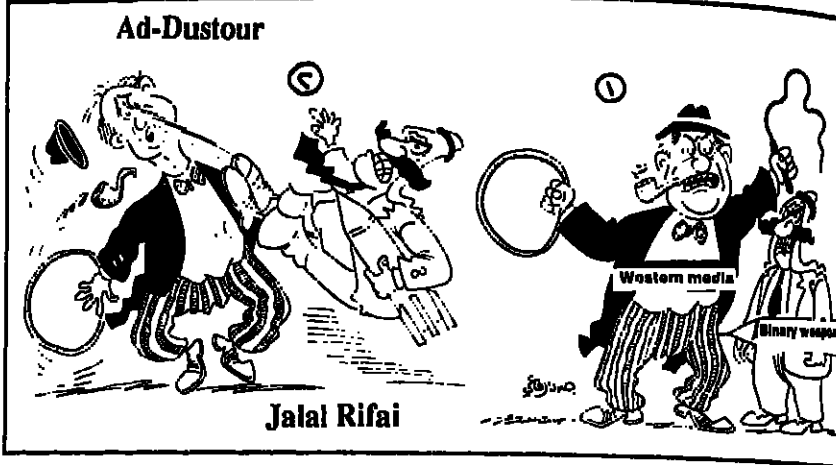
The incredible prices and the unacceptable rents that many landlords demand for their buildings have made it impossible for many middle-class Jordanians to find a decent apartment in which to live.

I don't claim to have a solution to this serious problem, but I think the government should interfere to regulate the real estate market and force landlords to rent their property to those of us who cannot pay in dollars.

It is also wise to make such an intervention before this house of cards collapses, as some real estate agents expect it to in the coming two years.

Meanwhile, I wish to draw the attention of the authorities to the increasing number of Jordanians who, despite their once-handsome salaries, are unable to find a suitable abode.

A Jordanian teacher
Zerqa.



The enduring legacy of Joseph Stalin

By Maggie James
Special to the Star

HE WAS a despot who ruled Russia for nearly 30 years; a man under whose totalitarian regime of terror millions of people died; a man who ruthlessly shaped his country into an insular, secretive and powerful nation; a legendary name in 20th century history — Joseph Stalin.

To an outsider he appears to have been a monster, yet many older generation Russians refuse to accept his culpability and reminisce on the era of Stalin as a period of growth and stability — compared with the instability of contemporary Russia. He is remembered by them as a leader who gave them pride in their country and its achievements.

Jonathan Lewis and Phillip Whitehead, both film directors and producers, have recently completed a three-part television series on the life of Stalin — a documentary that included archive film and stills never before seen outside the USSR. "Stalin: A Time for Judgement" which is the book accompanying the series, published by Methuen in association with Thames Television International, is an educational, sobering and sometimes chilling account of the grim Stalin era.

The Soviet Union is now engaged in a complex and potentially dangerous act of surgery, say the authors. "It is trying to remove the cancer of Stalin. But the surgeons — politicians, journalists, writers, film-makers, historians and a host of eloquent survivors have to distinguish between the malignant and the benign in Stalin's part in their country's past. The two are not always easy to identify and are often entwined."

They refer to the Stalinist system which enslaved one in 10 of the Soviet Union's inhabitants and has outlived Stalin himself. Its side-effects, they say, became bred in the bone of Soviet society. Under Stalin, it is now believed, the death toll — quite apart from losses in the Second World War — was between 20 and 30 million people.

As a young man, Stalin was an ardent Bolshevik and follower of Lenin. His early involvement in politics consisted of writing pamphlets and articles, developing the political consciousness of the workers through discussion, and later on organising demonstrations and strikes. Stalin was not a great orator like Trotsky,

he was not a great theoretician like Bukharin, but he was a natural practical revolutionary: secretive, tough and self-possessed," note the authors.

In his rise to power Stalin systematically removed his political opponents — often by covert assassination. In 1922 he was appointed General Secretary of the (Communist) Party and, by controlling the system of appointments within the Party, both harnessed the loyalty of the new members and transformed what had been a senior but routine job into the most powerful in the country. People were given their jobs in the new bureaucracy on the basis of their loyalty, rather than their qualifications.

Collectivisation was Stalin's first policy when he assumed the Russian leadership in 1927. The tactics of grain seizures, forced collectivisation and elimination of the kulaks (wealthy peasants) brought famine to the peasants. During that time, the authors reveal, the Soviet Union exported grain, it guarded it in granaries with soldiers, it let it rot in piles, but it would not allow it to be used to feed the hungry. Merely snipping a few ears of corn in a field was an offence which landed people in Siberian prison camps. In all, about seven million people died in the 1932-3 man-made famine.

By 1933, Stalin's policies in agriculture and industry had drastically changed Soviet life and death. Around 11 million people were killed by famine, forced displacements, repressions, and the anti-kulak campaign.

They open the door apart from the speech, Gorbachev and the clashes with the West.

ghost of Stalin in four key areas. "First, he can be charged with the destruction of Party infallibility, that casket in which the jewel of ideology is held. Secondly, his economic model is not succeeding for the mass of the people, who are keener on sausage on the table than glasnost on television. Thirdly, his tolerance of the break-up of Stalin's Eastern European monopoly gives security worries — of different kinds — to both the Soviet Party and the military. Finally, the nationalities question within the Soviet Union, for which Stalin had a brusque and brutal answer, has re-emerged to haunt the Russians."

* Stalin: A Time For Judgement. Jonathan Lewis and Phillip Whitehead. Methuen in association with Thames TV. pp254. Hardback. £14.99.

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What leaders of the Intifada say behind closed doors

By Frank Collins

I HAVE spent most of my time during the past six years in occupied East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip getting acquainted with the Palestinian people, their thoughts and their activities. When I first arrived, I was struck by their weariness with the occupation, and by their apathy. The Intifada has changed all that.

During several weeks, I have talked with many young Palestinians, including ex-prisoners and the "wanted," and representatives of the several PLO factions in the local leadership of the Intifada. The meetings took place mainly in private homes, often with my hosts on the lookout for soldiers patrolling the area.

These interviews revealed a remarkable consensus among the PLO factions as to the direction of the Intifada and its problems. While the discussions tended to magnify differences of opinion among the PLO factions, in fact the variations regarding strategy and tactics among those with whom I talked were small. Thus I feel justified in combining their answers to my questions, using the collective "we," rather than attempting to report each dialogue separately.

Goals of the Intifada

We want peace and recognition of the state of Palestine in the occupied territories. Everything that the Israelis do to us makes us believe that the Israelis do not want peace, but war and our expulsion from our homeland.

Shamir's election proposal

From the very first, we believed that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's election proposal was only a game to win time to put down the Intifada by military means. What has happened in the last year shows that we were right. The quick attempt of the United States to sponsor a "peace process" based on Shamir's play shows that some Americans wanted the same thing.

What Israelis want

The fall of the Shamir government and the subsequent political manoeuvres are of little interest to us. We believe that Shimon Peres wants the same things as Shamir, but is more hypocritical about it. Whatever Israeli government is formed, it will be against us and against a free Palestine. The real Israeli plan is the transfer of as many Palestinians as possible out of Palestine, maybe not now but over the years. They want to make life so miserable for us that we will leave voluntarily. Some of us are afraid that Shamir wants to kill many more of us to stop the Intifada. Most of us think that if he does it will set the whole world against him.

The Intifada leaders and the PLO

Except for the small minority who support Hamas (the Muslim Fundamentalist party), the support of the PLO among the rest of us is very nearly 100 per cent. Outside of some details, the various factions in the PLO are in essential agreement about the tactics of the Intifada. There is working unity between the PLO factions outside and those inside, and a thousand channels of communication between them. Intifada actions are jointly planned by the inside and outside factions, and agreed upon by the PLO as a whole.

What Hamas want

Hamas generally supports actions of the Intifada, although its final goals are very different. Hamas wants the whole of Palestine, while the PLO is prepared to settle for Palestine in the occupied territories. Some of the Hamas actions divide the Palestinian people.



estinian people.

PLO concession to Israel

We believe that the PLO has conceded to the Israelis everything that is needed for negotiations to begin with PLO acceptance of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 together with giving up armed struggle. The PLO has received nothing in return from Israel. We are opposed to making more concessions as we believe that they will gain us nothing. Some of us want to go back to the original 1947 UN resolution for the partition of Palestine, with its more equitable division of land between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

The Intifada will continue as long as necessary

The Intifada will continue until the Israelis end the occupation, even though it may take years. We are not tired and our morale is good. Our suffering will not be in vain, and in the end we will win as in Algeria. Our patriotic struggle is of many kinds, only partly stones and Molotov cocktails. We believe that it is gaining the sympathy of people everywhere.

Unarmed resistance vs. armed struggle

We believe that the present methods of struggle in the Intifada are working, but we need further development of the Intifada in all areas. Armed struggle did not work in the 20 years that we tried it. If it seems to our advantage, we may go back to armed struggle, but only with the complete agreement of the PLO, inside and outside.

Organisation of the Intifada

The strength of the Intifada is that it is a democratic struggle in which everyone participates and it is organised by representative committees in every village and camp. The committee memberships are nominated by each of the several factions in the PLO, with additional independent individuals selected because of their special abilities. This is also the structure of the national PLO.

The problem of collaborators

Those who collaborate with the Israelis are a very big problem. They help the Israelis by terror tactics, and they inform on political activists to the Israeli occupation forces. Nearly all of those who collaborate do so because of drugs, which make good people bad. We are making a big effort through Palestinian drug abuse centres to rehabilitate the people who collaborate.

orate because of drugs. The use of drugs in Palestine has dropped by more than 90 per cent. But what are we to do with the big collaborators who push drugs furnished by the Israelis? Killing is a last resort. It is a decision by the village committees, and not an individual action.

These responses, of course, do not cover everything that these young Palestinians talked about, only the highlights. Some of the answers also merit additional discussion.

Above all is the sincerity of the acceptance of the two-state solution by the Intifada leaders. Several of the young Palestinians made statements along these lines: "Of course, I would like all of Palestine, which the Israelis took away. My grandparents were expelled from inside the Green Line. Many Israelis would like to take the whole of Palestine. But neither is possible. The only solution I can hope for is to live in peace in the new state of Palestine, and perhaps some day see a confederation of Israel and Palestine."

The influx of Soviet Jews

All of these young Palestinians are bitter about the immigration of Soviet Jews, while Israel does not allow Palestinians who are outside to return to their homes within Israel, or even to return to the occupied territories. The Palestinians say that the clear intention of the Israelis is to settle the Soviet Jews in the occupied territories, including East-Jerusalem, just as Shamir said. They say that the immigration of the Russians should be delayed until the Palestinians have the right of return. One of the Palestinians with whom I talked said that there were ecological population limits, among them the growing shortage of water. He fears that Russian immigration means that the Palestinians will simply be pushed out.

A broad based movement

Not one of the Palestinians with whom I talked wanted a resumption of armed struggle, not even members of the Popular Front. The reason is clear. The armed struggle was carried out by a tiny minority. By contrast, virtually the whole population is participating in the largely nonviolent Intifada. The struggle of a few radicals has been converted to a broadly based people's movement.

Loyalty to the PLO

There was unanimous and enthusiastic support of the PLO among all those with whom I talked. The theory that there is a non-PLO constituency that can be split off and negotiated with is downright silly. However, this is the notion behind the proposition that elections must be held in the occupied territories before negotiations can begin.

The killing of collaborators is deeply troubling to every Palestinian with whom I have ever spoken. Israeli occupation is possible only with a network of Palestinian collaborators. They are not only informers, but many also commit violence against their fellow Palestinians. As traitors to their people, they are more hated than the Israeli soldiers.

In recent years, the Israelis have enlisted drugs as a weapon of the occupation. Drug addicts are particularly vulnerable to coercion by the Israelis. While Intifada leaders have been largely successful in reducing the use of drugs, there remains the question of what to do about the drug pushers. Under the condition of the occupation, the Palestinians have found only one answer.

Frank Collins is an American freelance journalist who divides his time between Jerusalem and Washington, D.C. He has a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Columbia University.

VIEW POINT BY YACOB JABER

Baghdad for the summit

THERE ARE many compelling reasons which make it imperative for Baghdad to be the venue of the forthcoming extraordinary Arab summit. The Iraqi capital has become the symbol of Arab steadfastness, defiance and courageous confrontation.

In recent weeks, Iraq has been the target of a vicious Zionist-orientated campaign designed to intimidate that Arab country into submission. The campaign could also have been planned to pave the way for an Israeli aggression against Iraqi scientific and military installations. Instead of being intimidated, Iraq bravely declared full preparedness to meet the challenge. President Saddam Hussain was quick to warn that Iraq would retaliate vigorously against any Israeli attack.

His warning and self-confident contentions boosted the morale of Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories, prompting them to escalate their uprising against Israel's occupation forces. For the first time since Egypt signed its peace treaty with Israel, Palestinians and Arabs everywhere felt that an Arab country is capable of standing up to the arrogant Israeli challenge. Thanks to Iraq, the Arabs have restored the military option and, above all, have attained self-confidence.

During its eight-year-old war with Iran, the Iraqi army has gained considerable combat experience making it one of the strongest armies not only in our region but probably in the whole world. Iraq, nevertheless, did not stop at that point. It has developed its own military potentials and successfully launched long-range missiles and manufactured the lethal binary chemical weapon to serve as a powerful deterrent against an attack by Israel or any other hostile power.

Iraq's military deterrent makes Israel no longer free to start a war without being severely punished. For the first time in many years, the Iraqi military power has made the Arab homeland safe from Israeli military adventures.

By holding their summit in Baghdad, Arab leaders demonstrate solidarity with Iraq in the face of the malicious campaign waged against it. Baghdad, after all, enshrines Arab hope for a brighter future based on self-reliance.

The Star

12 THE STAR

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17 MAY 1990

Insight

Dr Nabil Al-Sharif

Absurd statements

IT SEEMS that some American officials see a "positive" human-rights situation in the Arab occupied territories which the whole world is simply unable to detect. While Israel receives worldwide condemnation over its horrible human-rights abuses and its dismal record of daily torture and murder of the Palestinian community, American officials are showering praise for what they maintain as an improved human-rights record in Israel.

But how did these American officials arrive at their peculiar estimation of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza? The answer lies in what seems to be an "in-born" gift that some American officials possess of falsifying facts, twisting truths and coming up with the most outrageous comparisons and indulging in a futile exercise of seeing connections that are not there in the first place.

This unique "gift" of expressing twisted political statements was manifested in the declaration made by three political officials in the US administration over the past week. And I will supply here a summary of these "amazing" political statements attributed to officials who should know better, and who should think twice before insulting the intelligence of their listeners.

Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs told a congressional panel that "the number of Palestinians killed in 1990 in intra-Palestinian violence is now equal to the number killed by the Israeli army during the same period."

Director for Israel and Arab-Israeli Affairs at the State Department, John Hirsch, made the "insightful" comment that Israel's theft of water in the occupied territories is not that serious because there "has been scarcity of water throughout the Middle East," and this depletion of water resources is happening "more in Gaza than in the West Bank."

The Under-Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs made the most daring comment when he said in a congressional meeting earlier this week that the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis has dropped to "only ten per month," and the number of the injured is down "to only 2500 annually."

Who do these people think they are fooling? And why do they assume that they can get away with these insulting and absurd statements? And, most importantly, why do these people feel that they have to account for their biased and unwavering support for Israel? We would respect these people more if they do not try to resort to logic in order to explain an illogical absurd relationship.

Mubarak's Egypt: Fragmentation of the Political Order

By Robert Springborg; Westview Press, Boulder & London 1989

WHEN ROBERT Springborg wrote an article for MERIP Reports in the summer of 1987 about the struggle for power between Field Marshal Abd Al-Hamid Abu Ghazala, then minister of defence, and President Hosni Mubarak, some experts on Egyptian affairs dismissed him as an alarmist. Springborg remains so in his most recent work, Mubarak's Egypt. This does not dismiss his analysis as irrelevant by any means.

Much of what Springborg has to say hits home on all fronts. For example, the 20-odd pages he devotes to Mubarak as president are probably the most enlightening, and perhaps most entertaining, collection of opinions that have been combined in one place about the Egyptian president.

Egyptians have had only three presidents since the 1952 Revolution. Both Gamal Abd El Nasser and Anwar El Sadat held a nation of millions captivated with their charisma and eloquent styles. Nasser was a great orator and Sadat was a homespun speaker, down-to-earth without frills. Mubarak, however, is a pragmatic politician. He, like many of his contemporaries around the world today, does not lead, but rather manages. Leadership has become almost an unknown commodity in the Arab world and Egypt has not escaped the dry spell. Mubarak is not a charismatic figure, nor even one who appears comfortable in a political environment, Springborg writes. "He is principally a military officer accustomed to routine imposed by bureaucracy and chain of command."

In other words, a manager. By managing, Mubarak has left a

vacuum in Egyptian politics awaiting fulfillment.

Politicians, journalists, and the common man and woman do not see Egypt leading anywhere, where at one time Egypt was often at the forefront of activity in the region, from nationalising the Suez Canal to proclaiming peace with Israel.

Despite the lack of vision, Springborg does not write off Mubarak as a boring non-ideologue with no plans for his country. The author does point out rather matter-of-factly that the presidency's pragmatism

dictates selecting "specific measures rather than overall designs," in contrast to the complete menu for ideological or temperate approach his predecessors pursued.

What makes Springborg's writing so fresh, despite his exaggerations and bell-ringing warnings of economic and political collapse just around the corner, is his effective use of abundant and varied sources. He has accumulated a number of important interviews and off-the-record conversations with Egyptian officials, experts, and Americans working with AID and the US embassy in Cairo.

Using this variety of sources,



political parties have become adept at conveying their messages to their followers and interested public. "The government has appreciated that buying and reading an opposition party newspaper is in most cases stimulated by the desire to obtain news not available elsewhere rather than party allegiance."

Springborg concludes. And for this reason censorship has declined dramatically in Egypt. There is nevertheless a great deal of political control by the government. Political liberalisation is not that dramatic, although it appears so when compared to the Nasser era.

Springborg's book does not ignore one of the most prominent branches of the Egyptian government, the military. He does, however, get carried away with the whole "conspiracy" type of analysis whereby a struggle existed between Abu Ghazala and Mubarak. This situation existed in Egypt during the 1960s when

Abd El Hakim Amer, the minister of defence and vice president, attempted to wrest power from Nasser using the strength of his popularity with the armed forces. History did not repeat itself here. Since the book's release, Abu Ghazala has been removed from office and the reasons for his removal are many. Perhaps the field marshal did steal much of the regime's thunder in the media and did rule over a modern-day fiefdom. But more importantly, Abu Ghazala became implicated in an attempt to smuggle missile technology from the United States. He has not by any means been distanced from Mubarak other than publicly. He remains an adviser and special envoy to the president. Undoubtedly a demotion, yet a necessary one, that Abu Ghazala willingly obeyed without a struggle.

Springborg does not arrive at a decisive conclusion. Egypt now is at a critical turning point and which way the country will turn "will be determined by the choices of those currently playing leading or secondary political roles." Making no choices at all is how the government sometimes appears. Mubarak's pragmatism may be viewed as indecisiveness. By not making any choices, the ball is always in someone else's court, and all the Egyptians have to do for the time being is respond. This is a lot more cautious than making choices or decisions. After all, survival is the name of the game for Egypt, as John Waterbury once indicated. But this is not news. It has been survival for a long time in Egypt and Egypt has always won that game... so far.

Reviewed by El Nasser Alallah.

BOOK REVIEW

Parliamentarians address democracy in the Arab world

By John B. Holway

WASHINGTON - THREE parliamentarians - from Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan - discussed "Democracy in the Arab world" during a panel discussion at the Arab American Institute's fifth annual Leadership Conference, held here May 10-12.

Mrs Lila Takla, an Egyptian parliamentarian, spoke about the perceived impact of the ideological struggle between communism and capitalism on the Arab world. Although communism may be losing ground in Europe, she said, that does not mean that capitalism is necessarily the part to the future for Arab countries. "What is needed may be a third model," she said.

Another panelist, Mr Laith Shubailat from Jordan, saw the struggle in somewhat different terms. "We are Muslim hardware being re-programmed to carry Western software," he said. The struggle is one between western culture, on one hand, something between capitalism and communism on the other," he said.

In any event, the struggle is not between religions, he stressed. Algeria, he pointed out, is practically all Muslim, "but the same struggle is taking place" there.

Shubailat represents a district in Jordan with both Muslims and Christians.

"Our problems are not among communities but within communities," Mr Butros Harb of Lebanon said. "It's up to the people to choose." He said the people can decide which religion is better for them. But, he added, a "fanatic society... cannot provide people a better way of life." His hope in Lebanon, he said, is to "humanise" society "where all citizens are considered equal."

This problem of peaceful co-existence "has worried and puzzled other countries," Harb said. In Lebanon it is made more acute by "the struggle for power in the region." What is happening in Lebanon now, he said, "is not the democratic way."

Shubailat was asked about the strong showing of Muslim fundamentalists in the Jordan elections. "If you believe in democracy, human rights, and the freedom of the people to choose," he said, "then it is hypocritical to criticise the results."

One problem of parliamentary democracy, Shubailat said, is that politicians will "promise things that cannot be achieved" in order to get elected. Thus "the aspirations of our people are

higher than what our parliament has achieved." That's why, he said, it's very important to be true to one's campaign.

Democracy in Jordan is "still a child, it's growing. We're still educating ourselves," Shubailat said. "Most members of parliament know nothing about parliament; they have no experience under the leadership of a party. There are no parties."

Takla, the first woman to represent Egypt in the United Nations and former chairperson of parliament's foreign affairs committee, said that the Arab countries face problems. "But the only way to cure these problems

is more democracy," she added. The programme of the three-day conference also included a panel with Arab American mayors, two political forums, with leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties, and an address by the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

The Arab American Institute was founded in 1985 as a bipartisan organisation to help Arab Americans gain political power through the election process and to shape debate on issues of interest to them. About 200 politically active Arab-Americans from all over the United States participated in the conference. (USIS)

Department of Antiquities
Sound and light at Jerash

Will reopen May 20/1990 evenings at 8:30 as follows; Arabic on Friday, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday; English on Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday.

Tickets on sale at site at JD 1. (Children up to 12 years old only 100 fils).

17 MAY 1990

Israel in the eyes of Congress: A sobering view

IT'S NOT just Bob Dole; American discontent with Israel is deep and growing deeper.

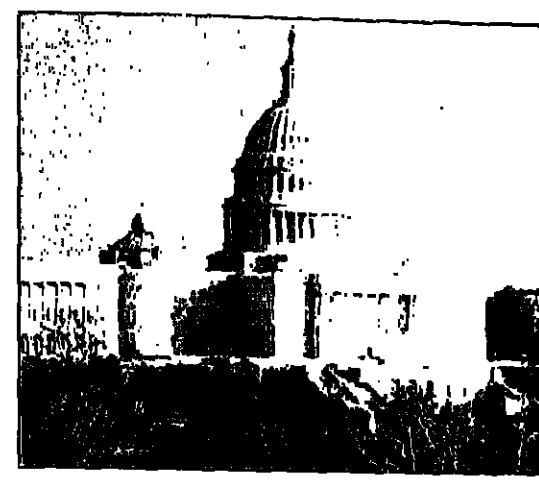
That was the message Rep. Tom Foley (Democrat - Washington), speaker of the House, gave Jewish leaders last week in an off-the-record meeting described by participants as "very depressing," "very sobering" or, more mildly, "a realistic view" of Israel's present standing with Congress and the administration. "I'll characterise it this way," said Robert Lifton, president of the American Jewish Congress. "It was a message from a good friend who was pointing to things people in that room already knew. If you read the tea leaves, I don't have to tell you more."

Congress — Israel's traditional bastion against administration pressure — is far from turning against Israel, Foley told the gathered leaders. A crisis is not now at hand. But several participants said he warned them emphatically: "Don't misread the numbers."

Other congressmen interviewed by the Jerusalem Post voiced similar views. Some cautioned that Congress was unlikely to turn against Israel, but that it is distress over Israeli policies deepened, members could simply fail to speak up when the administration presses Israel on issues such as new settlements and the peace process.

In the Senate last week, one did not have to look far beyond Dole to find clear manifestations of the seismic rumblings Foley spoke of. In some cases the nature of the growing discontent seemed to challenge fundamentals of the US-Israel relationship.

In the Senate Appropriations Committee, Sen. Patrick Leahy (Democrat - Vermont) has long been regarded as a warm friend of Israel, but last week his



Capitol Hill: A new perspective?

qualms were public and far-reaching. Questioning Secretary of State James Baker as he appeared before the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, which he chairs, Leahy cited Israel's "covert support for new settlements in Jerusalem". Prime Minister Shamir's plans to "accelerate settlements in the West Bank and Gaza", and his earlier refusal to accede to Baker's framework of advancing Shamir's plan for negotiation with the Palestinians.

"Are we, as some have suggested, at a point where Israel really does not care one way or the other how the US feels on these matters?" Leahy asked Baker. "Is it the administration's position that Israel's request for foreign aid will continue exactly where it is, no matter what Israel does? Is aid to Israel an entitlement programme, or does it in any way relate to what their reaction is to US proposals?"

This week, another senator close to the Jewish community vented his frustrations with Israel on one of the most emotional of issues. Sen. Daniel Moyni-

han (D-N.Y.) charged bluntly that the 400 Shi'ite prisoners held by Israel's South Lebanon Army ally were hostages no less than those Westerners being held by radical Lebanese Shi'ite groups. "No one country in the world has an inexhaustible store of good will," warned Rep. Larry Smith (Democrat - Florida), one of Israel's stalwarts in Congress, in an interview. "You know it and I know it."

Participants at the Foley meeting warned that congressional disappointment over specific issues such as Israel's covert funding of the takeover of St. John's Hospice in Jerusalem's Christian quarter is breeding deeper, more fundamental criticisms. "It looks like they're putting settlements ahead of religious rights," one meeting participant quoted Foley as saying.

Also, a participant who took notes said Foley described Congress as "disgusted" with Israel's electoral system. The fevered rush of brazen vote buying by Israeli leaders during the pursuit of a viable coalition had penetrated Congress' consciousness, with tangible effects on many members' sense of those leaders' legitimacy, he said.

Foley also warned the Jewish leaders of Congress' apprehension regarding the policies a narrow right-wing coalition led by Yitzhak Shamir might pursue - particularly any government in

which Ariel Sharon played a prominent role.

"Sharon is seen as a dark force by Congress," one Jewish leader quoted Foley as saying.

Foley characterised the personal relationship between President Bush and Shamir as "very bad; the worst between any American and Israeli leader in history," one participant said, and added that prospects for improvement were poor.

For all that, Foley said, the time of actual congressional crisis is not now, participants reported; Congress could still play its traditional role as Israel's court of appeal against administration excesses.

Rep. Mel Levine (Democrat - California) warned that Congress' perception of Israel's commitment to a "meaningful peace process" was the "principal issue" governing its readiness to defend Israel.

Rep. Lee Hamilton (Democrat - Indiana), chairman of the House Subcommittee on the Middle East, agreed, and brushed aside Foley's rumblings about deeper broodings. A minority voice among the members interviewed, Hamilton looked strictly at the votes and portrayed Israel's standing in Congress in far more sanguine terms.

"There is a good bit of cloak-room conversation regarding Israel, and criticism of its settlement policy," he related. "But there is also a good bit of conversation critical of Baker and Bush. So you hear it both ways. The important thing is that you're not seeing any reduction in support for Israel on votes."

Still, some pro-Israel activists worry about Hamilton himself when fretting over the cumulative effect of negatively perceived news about Israel. As chairman of the House's Middle East Subcommittee, Hamilton has insisted on holding a special

lem is part of a massive landgrab or other anti-Christian policy planned by the government.

I have no way of knowing whether his opinion is right or wrong. His opinion, however, is clearly not enough to dispel the perception and the fear. As the Anti-Defamation League's National Director, Abraham H. Foxman, said: "The time now is for the Israeli government to repudiate this incident, to fire those responsible and to make a clear statement by the Prime Minister indicating that this was not and is not government policy. I think nothing short of that will restore credibility to the Israeli government when it is essential for its dealings with friends and allies."

I am gratified by such expressions of outrage on the part of responsible Jewish leaders in the United States, but not surprised. They are decent people, and the Israeli government has engaged in an indecent act. Their protests, however, seem to have fallen thus far on deaf ears, and this is both sad and dangerous. It suggests either governmental ignorance of, or insensitivity to, not only the incident, but to the perception by many Christians of what the incident implies and forebodes.

As a long-standing friend of Israel, I protest such ignorance and insensitivity almost as much as I protest the incident itself. This is a clear case of "what's bad for Christians is bad for Israel."

hearing on human rights practices in the territories on Wednesday, despite efforts by pro-Israel lobbyists to get to agree to expand the hearing to the Middle East as a region.

Israeli officials expect the hearing will yield more bad news, though they hope it will be minimal.

According to Jewish leaders at the Foley meeting, Foley said the steady drip of such news could erode support for Israel, and that this support may suddenly disappear if Israel's current leadership crisis and policies are not altered soon.

"You have to use some intuition," one Jewish leader quoted the congressional veteran as saying of his feel for the current mood.

The Jerusalem Post.

The immigrants:
Who are they?

SOME 50,000 Soviet Jews will be settling in Israel and the occupied territories this year according to Israeli and independent sources. Israel hopes to "absorb" 100,000 new immigrants, mostly from the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries, every year for the next four to five years. For Israel the influx of immigrants has created numerous problems concerning the availability of employment and housing for the newcomers. The Jewish Agency has conducted a number of surveys to find out what qualifications these immigrants have, while the Absorption Ministry is seeking funds to subsidise the settlement of "olim".

According to a survey of 100,000 applicants from the Soviet Union, 54 per cent of Soviet Jews who applied at the Jewish Agency have academic degrees. According to results of the survey, published last week in The Jerusalem Post, 22 per cent of the applicants are administrative and service-oriented personnel and 21 per cent are blue-collar workers. Following is a partial breakdown of these figures:

Professionals

Teachers: 2,642. Musicians: 985. Jurists: 18. Scientists: 110. Mathematicians/Physicists: 1,072. Engineers (mechanical, civil, chemical, etc.): 11,222. Journalists: 64. Doctors: 1,280. Dentists: 1,328. Computer programmers: 1,713.

Service oriented

Accountants: 1,399. Tour guides: 26. Insurance agents: 31. Nurses: 1,307. Opticians: 59. Tailors: 962. Drivers: 1,549.

Blue Collar

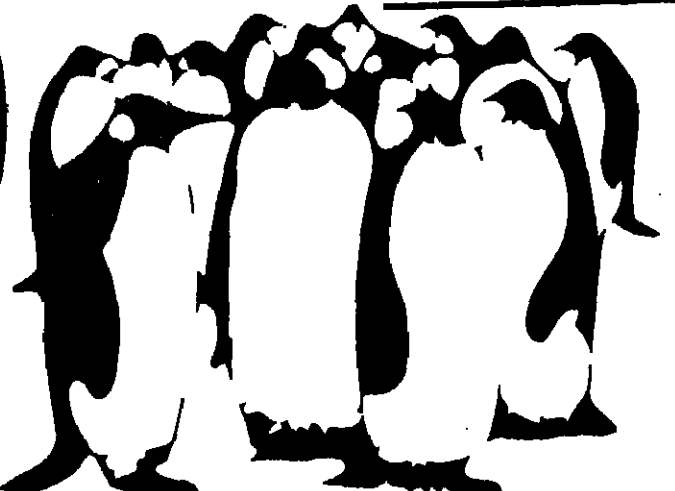
Carpenters: 1,008. Plumbers: 13. Painters: 697. Mechanics: 666. Construction workers: 3,101.

Other

Authors: 28. Directors: 43. Actors: 64. Athletes: 18. Coaches: 134. Piano repairmen: 23.

THE STAR 15

AROUND TOWN



All pitch in to help MAP

● About 6000 people participated Friday in the Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) march. Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan, Princess Sarvath and their son Prince Rashid, were among the participants in the 22-kilometre march, whose aim was to raise funds for medical projects to aid Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The marchers walked from the InterContinental Hotel to Khirbet Abu Jaber in Yadoudah where a traditional song was opened by Princess Sarvath.

Among those who participated in the march were Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zaid ben Shaker, MAP's Jordan President Mr Abdulmajid Shoman, the American ambassador in Amman, Dr Kamel Al Shuer, Mrs Nadia Al Alamy, Mr Munthir Al Fahoum and other dignitaries.

At Khirbet Abu Jaber (Khan Zaiman) the marketplace of old Jerusalem was revived with peddlers selling fruits, home-made jams and pickles, clothing, silver and glass ware among other trinkets.

According to MAP London office director Dr Rafiq Hussein the events brought in JD 250,000.

MAP was founded in 1984 in London. The independent Jordanian chapter is working in co-operation with the London association to achieve the same noble goals, mainly to develop, improve and provide medical care, aids and facilities for the Palestinians inside and the outside areas.

The honorary president of the Jordanian chapter is Crown Prince Hassan, Mr Abdulmajid Shoman is the president, Dr Kamel Al Shuer is the vice-president, Mrs Nadia Al Alamy is the secretary, while Mr Monther El Fahoum is the treasurer. Other founders include Haj Mohammad Ali Budeir, Mrs Nazik El Hariri, Mrs Suha Shoman, Dr Daoud Hananeia, Dr Ashraf El Kurdi, Mr Nazir Jerdanah, Dr Raouf Abu Jaber, Dr Abdullah El Bshier, Mr Samir El Zabry as well as other well known and active personalities.

Bridge tournament in support of MAP

● In addition to the charity march and other MAP activities Mrs Zaha Mango and Mr Majeda Moasher organised a bridge tournament at the Jordan InterContinental Hotel on Wednesday 9 May. The tournament was attracted by bridge enthusiasts.

In addition to Mrs Mango and Mrs Moasher, Mr Awad Haddad, Mr Bahjat Majaly, Mr Arafat Sahab and Mr Gassam Ghanem of the Jordan Bridge Association (JBA) and El Urdun Club joined the organising committee to provide technical support.

Before starting the play, Mrs Sahar El Masry welcomed the participants and explained the association's aims. She also urged everybody to buy the keyholders with Inifada poems engraved on them since they are "a good reminder of the children of the stone especially when you open your safes," she pointed out.

The main event of the tournament was a duplicate bridge tournament. It attracted 26 tables (104 players), who were divided into two sections to play eleven rounds of two boards each.

A. Sahab, M. Baslan and G. Ghanem directed the game, while S. Barakat carried out the scoring on the computer.

Mrs Akasheh and Mr Aloul achieved the highest percentage to win the "MAP Cup", which was awarded by Mr A. Haddad.

The final results were as follows:

Red section, North-South: East-West
First: N. Hattar & C. Maamar Basha — A. Akasheh & A. Aloul. Second: Q. Nuseibeh & G. Sousa — A. Odch & R. Shaaban. Third: M. Awad & P. Shamy — S. Zein & H. Daniel

Blue section
First: L. Salem & A. Shreydah — S. & V. Habeb. Second: F. Salfiti & S. Nagol — A. Awad & S. Nabusi. Third: F. Qaddaoumy & B. Majali — O. Abudheim & S. Abdo.

Scrapbook

A red and white ball

ONCE UPON a time two brothers were playing with a red and white ball, a third boy was watching from the other side of the street. He came closer to the playground, then asked the two players if he could join them, the boys exchanged a suspicious look, then one of them said: "Ok, you can play with us."

The two boys did not have much choice, simply because the third boy was of bigger stature.

The play went on for a while until the new player saw that his playmates were showing signs of fatigue. At an opportune moment, as the red and white ball flew beyond the reach of either of them, he ran after it, grabbed it and took off.

The two boys were stunned and felt sad and frustrated while tears filled their eyes. Ten minutes later they arrived at home. Their father smelt trouble.

"What is the matter?" he asked in a worried tone.

"We lost the ball," came the subdued voice of one of the boys.

As the two brothers were trying to explain what happened, they started arguing about who was the last to kick the ball, making it fly that far. Neither of them would take responsibility for the fatal kick. Finally, the father said: "While you are arguing about who is responsible for the loss of the ball, the thief is playing freely with it."

This story came to my mind, as I read about the controversy regarding a certain peace-march and the plans by another group for a counter march.

While the various groups argue among each other, the rest are watching the show.

However, the father's advice to his sons was "If you cannot have your ball back, buy a new one, or better still play another game."

Salim Ayoub

● The General Union of Charitable Societies in co-operation with the Young Muslim Women Association (YMWA) will organise a seminar on Saturday on improving media attitude to the handicapped, which will take place at the Jordan Television building. Participating in the seminar will be Minister of Information Mr Ibrahim Izzidin, Mrs Ghosoun Al Qareh, Dr Abdulla Al Khatib, Rev. Andrew and Dr Jamil Samadi. The five-day seminar will include workshops and film screening.

of his own.

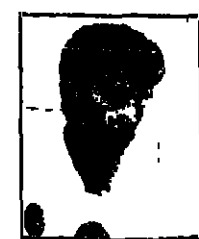
● Dr Nabil Al Sharif and his wife Manal had a good reason to celebrate last Thursday's pleasant event. Manal had a 3.8 kg. baby girl, who joins her two sisters Shada and Farah. The couple were showered with proposed names for the new arrival from close members of the family. The final choice, we were told is Joud. Congratulations all around.

● Maha and Karim Al Saket were overjoyed with the birth of a 3.5 kg. baby boy on Monday. Zaid joins his 18 month sister, Reem. Congratulations.

● The Jordanian-Chinese Friendship Society has accepted 14 new members in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Dr Eid Al Dhiat Friday. They are: Anwar Jilani, Sami Khouri, Yousef Saradi, Hisham Al Shawa, Fahmi Al Saffi, Ahmad Tbeishat, Khaled Al Taraneh, Said Al Ta'ani, Dr Majid Amari, Mohammed Mithqal Asfour, Adli Alan, Dr Yacoub Qubein, Nasser Lowzi and Yacoub Toranian.

● Mr Adel Salame gave two "Ud" (Arab lute) recitals earlier this month, having recently completed his music studies in Jordan and Iraq. He entertained the guests at the 10th anniversary celebration of the National Art Gallery on 3rd May. Amongst those present were Their Royal Highnesses Princess Servath, Prince Ra'ad, Princess Majda and the president of the Fine Arts Society, Princess Wijdan.

Salame also gave a well-attended solo concert on 9 May at the British Council. He played pieces by Arab and Turkish composers, and improvisations



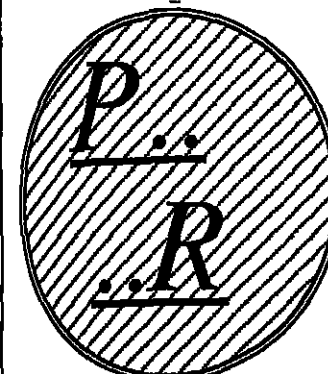
Mr Salame



Royal participation in the MAP march (top) and a dabkeh ring in the souk



Cashing a winning hand



WHAT'S ON at the Marriott?

- Everyday - Al Mansaf restaurant has a brand new menu featuring daily and monthly specials.
- Monday - 28 May "Teach and Taste" exclusive gourmet cuisine preparation lessons are given by executive chef Wolfgang.
- Tuesday and Saturday - New special menu: delicious imported US steaks for that steak night special at Al-Walima.

Marriott announces \$5 billion expansion plan

● MARRIOTT HOTELS and Resorts, the US hotel group, is to commit \$5 billion to an expansion plan over the next five years, aiming to double the company's size.

Terry Barlow, London based vice president (operations) outlined the five year strategic development plan, which will involve a doubling of the company's hotels with a particular focus on European expansion. The company plans to have more than 1,200 hotels worldwide by the end of 1995.

"Our first hotel in Europe was the Amsterdam Marriott Hotel which we opened 15 years ago, in 1975," Barlow said. "Since then, we have added 18 international hotels from Cairo to Paris, Hong Kong to London, Hamburg to Warsaw."

Eastern Europe has been specifically targeted. "While we're interested in expanding our luxury hotel line worldwide, we are emphasising Eastern Europe," he said. Specific areas under consideration are the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Yugoslavia. The corporation opened the first Western-managed hotel, the Warsaw Marriott, in October 1989.

Marriott has 543 hotels and resorts offering 136,000 rooms daily in four different lodging product categories. Five hundred of these hotels have been added to the lodging portfolio in the past decade. Its 200 luxury properties are located worldwide including Amsterdam, Amman, Athens, Bremen, Cairo, Frankfurt, Hamburg, London, Paris, Vienna, Warsaw, Riyadh and Jeddah. Marriott's fourth hotel in Germany, the Munich Marriott, was opened on 23 April.

Marriott's first hotel in the Pacific Rim, the Hong Kong Marriott, opened on 27 February 1989.

Leaving? Party? Celebrating? Drop us a line... today! People, P.O. Box 9313, Amman-Jordan.



● The new headquarters of Gargour and Fils Co., general agents for Mercedes-Benz in Jordan will officially inaugurate on Saturday 26 May. Arab and foreign delegations have been invited to attend a seminar on the occasion. Mr Ingo Kalina of Mercedes-Benz in Germany will talk about his company's achievements and future plans especially in the field of safety. A press conference will follow the seminar.

Agenda

- The American Center presents the feature film "Death of a Salesman", starring Dustin Hoffman, Thursday 17 May at 7:00 p.m. repeated on Sunday same time.
- Goethe Institute presents the video film "Schimmelreiter", starring Gert Frobe, Tuesday 22 May at 8:00 p.m.

Films

- An exhibition by Randa Be-roui entitled "Water colour, Gouache and Tempera painting" will open at the Goethe Institute, Saturday 19 May.

Exhibition

- An exhibition of tapestries and embroideries, works from the countryside, will open at the French Cultural Centre on Monday 21 May.

Theatre

- "Tranches de vies" by the French Cultural Centre's theatre troupe will open at the Royal Cultural Centre on Wednesday 23 May at 8:15 p.m.
- The musical "Bronte" will be performed at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday 17 May at 7:00 p.m.

Lectures

- A series of lectures and debates will be given by Swedish linguist and arabist Mr Jan Henningson at the Royal Cultural Centre on Monday 21 May at 7:00 p.m.

DISCOVER THE BEST KEPT SECRET IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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الخطوط الملكية الأردنية



THE STAR'S WORLD CUP CONTEST BY FRANZ BECKENBAUER



**DISCOVER
THE
STARS OF
INTER-
NATIONAL
SOCCER!**

YOU ARE A SOCCER EXPERT?..THEN LET ME CHALLENGE YOU!

QUESTION 11 QUESTION 12

EVER SINCE the first World Cup was held in Uruguay in 1930, it has been an almost unbroken tradition that a team from the host continent ends up capturing the coveted trophy. At the first world championship, for example, the Uruguayans, who had dazzled the world with their fine football at the 1924 and 1928 Olympic Games, ended up victorious. Four years later, back in Europe, it was the Italians who won. More recently, in 1982, Italy won the World Cup in Spain, and in 1986 Argentina became world champions in Mexico. Only once this series has been interrupted by one of the greatest teams of all time. Who was the team which managed to win a World Cup not held on its own continent, what was the score of the final, and when and where was the championship held?

SOME OF the greatest players ever to step on a football field have played in numerous World Cups. Brazil's Pelé and West Germany's Uwe Seeler, for example, each took part in four such championships. Only one footballer has, however, ever participated in five World Cups, and this despite the fact that his team was never very successful. This player, always a very fair sportsman, had to wait for many years before his country finally won a World Cup match. Who was he, in which World Cups did he take part, and when did his team finally win a game?

★ PRIZES ★

- In co-operation with the sportswear company adidas and car manufacturer Mercedes, the following prizes will be offered to winners:
- 1-One original adidas Worldcup track suit as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the finals;
 - 2-One pair of the original adidas football shoes "Etrusco Unico" with titanium studs;
 - 3-One original adidas Worldcup football jersey as officially worn by one of the national teams participating in the finals;
 - 4-One original adidas football "Etrusco Unico," the official football of the Worldcup finals in Italy;
 - 5-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:10, of the legendary sports car Mercedes 300 SL, year of construction 1954;
 - 6-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:24, of the Mercedes car Simplex, year of construction 1902;
 - 7-One accurate miniature, ratio of dimensions 1:18, of the Mercedes car SSK, year of construction 1928.

C O U P O N

To participate in this competition fill this coupon and send it to: World Cup 90, P O Box (9313), Amman Jordan.

Name:

Telephone:

P O Box:

City:

Conditions: To be eligible to win one of the grand prizes you must identify 6 players in competition A and answer at least 8 questions correctly from competition B.

You can send as many coupons as you like to increase your chances of winning.

Coupons should be sent on weekly basis.

WHO WILL MAKE IT?

COLOMBIA Football in the shadow of the drugs Mafia



Francisco Maturana
Colombia

beat Israel (1-0, 0-0) in the ensuing play-off.

COLOMBIA'S ONLY previous appearance in the World Cup finals was 28 years ago, and brought no glory. Today, the links which so many of the country's clubs have with the feared drugs Mafia and the countless instances of game-fixing this has produced have brought bad times to the game in this South American nation. All the more surprising, then, are the more confident noises coming from it.

Reaching the second round is the minimum target set by team coach Dr Francisco Maturana, 40 - despite the strength of such first round opponents as Yugoslavia and West Germany. The side qualified for Italy as first in South America Group 2 against Paraguay and Ecuador, going on to

Yet despite all the setbacks, Maturana - a dentist who has become a national hero - can show an impressive record. World champions Argentina have been beaten no fewer than three times by Colombia, including once in Buenos Aires

with Maradona. And they managed to hold south American champions Brazil to a draw, as well as England and Scotland in the 1988 Sir Stanley Rous Cup.

"My team is young, but already experienced," says Maturana. "I try to combine South American elegance with European discipline." Experts testify to his side's skill and sound defence, but point to running and athletic weaknesses. This is true especially of playmaker Carlos Valderrama. The "White Gullit," as South America's 1987 Footballer of the Year is known because of his resemblance to the Dutch superstar, often finds himself on the substitute's bench with French first division club FC Montpellier because of his lack of speed.

Other stars in the side are goalkeeper Rene Higuita, famed for his upfield "torpedos," and striker Alberto Usuga, who secured his side's ticket to Italy with the goal against Israel. Nearly all the national team players intend using the World Cup to put themselves on display in the hope of being hired in Europe.

17 MAY 1990

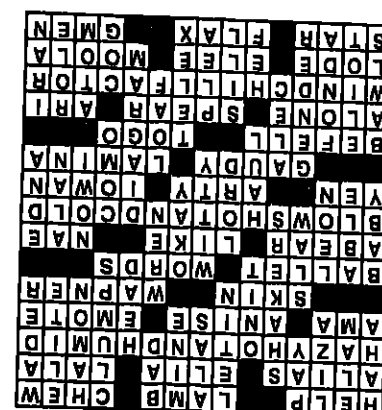
Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lend a hand
 - 5 Dear soul
 - 9 Mom's order re eating
 - 13 A k a
 - 15 Big name in essay writing
 - 16 Singing syllables
 - 17 Weather prediction in Aug
 - 20 Doctors' org
 - 21 Licorice flavoring
 - 22 Tear a passion to latters
 - 23 Hide
 - 24 TV judge
 - 25 "Rodeo" for one
 - 28 Noah Webster's forte
 - 30 Cross as
 - 31 As to some admen
 - 32 Scott's negative
 - 35 Vacillates
 - 38 Harkening
 - 40 Chichu
 - 41 Grant Wood, e g
 - 42 Ostentatiously colorful
 - 44 Thin layer, as of plastic
 - 45 Happened to
 - 48 Phrase re some fast foods
 - 49 Solo
 - 50 Asparagus unit
 - 52 "Exodus" hero
 - 55 Weather term in winter
 - 58 Ore deposit
 - 59 Gan. Robt I
 - 60 Dough, cabbage
 - 61 Celebrity
 - 62 Linen source
 - 63 J. Edgar's group

DOWN

- 1 Guffaw, guffaw!
- 2 Jack of TV's "The Dakotas"
- 3 One of Judy's gits
- 4 Be worthwhile
- 5 Admit
- 6 "Oh, woe!"
- 7 Golconda
- 8 Terrible
- 9 Small groups
- 10 — rye (del offering)
- 11 Upper crust
- 12 Heron, for one
- 14 Millennial Church members
- 18 "Step —!"
- 19 Director
- 23 Picnic salad
- 24 Songbird
- 25 Pamper
- 26 Competent
- 27 A Spinks
- 28 Clever
- 29 All right
- 31 Nobleman's title
- 32 — lay me down
- 33 Bates or King
- 34 Writer Ferber
- 36 Transport by wagon
- 37 Illustrative sketch
- 38 Singer Perry
- 42 Neuter is one
- 43 Composer Wilder
- 44 Lallygag
- 45 Cries lustily
- 46 Prutrock's creator
- 47 Filmdom family name
- 48 Kind of dialed message
- 50 Spot for indoor cats
- 51 Entirely
- 52 Minute particle
- 53 Part
- 54 Bari-Sadri's homeland
- 56 A famous Hugh, for short
- 57 Gear tooth

Solution



Jordan Bridge By Ghassan Ghanem

Hands on the "MAP"

THE MEDICAL Aid for Palestinians "MAP" organised a successful bridge tournament last Wednesday, which I assisted in directing. My job was made easy since the event was well organised. I had the chance to watch some of the hands closely.

My first hand is a good example of the necessity of investigating the trump king before bidding a slam.

Red Section - hand No. 9, N. Dealer, EW - Vul.

North (Graciella)	South (Qadar)
♠ AKQ6	♠ 10
♥ Q4	♥ 3
♦ A106	♦ KQ5
♣ K543	♣ A95

Mrs Sousa opened a strong club and Mrs Nusiebah went on investigating the aces and the kings after the heart suit was fixed as trumps. Before bidding the grand slam, Mrs Nusiebah went into a long pause. She had no clue regarding the position of the trump king. Finally she decided to bid the grand slam and went one down since the heart king was off side.

There are several methods to investigate the trump king. One of them is the "Five aces Blackwood," which was explained in last week's article. South's 4N would be asking for aces also, but North's answer should consider the heart king as a fifth ace.

Therefore, 5♥ would show two of the five aces, which means that they are missing one of the key cards: The agreed-upon trump suit's king or one of the aces. Now south can stop in 6♥ or

6N to guarantee a good score.

Another method is via cue bidding. After 4♥, South can start cue bidding by 4♣; North now cue bids 5♣ to show a club control and one of three of the three top honours of the agreed upon trump suit, since she passed the 4N level. If she bids 4N, then she would be holding none or two of them. And the same applies for both partners. Again South would be aware that the ♥K or the ♥Q is not held by their side.

The second hand is a horror story. Mr Halim El-Salfiti and Mr Nabil Odeh were playing a system where 1♣ opening shows 19+ points and 1♦ opening shows any opening hand without five cards of a major, and does not qualify for 1N opening.

Blue section, hand no. 1, N-dealer, Vul-None

North (Nabil)	South (Halim)
♠ 10 6	♠ 2N
♥ A	♥ 4N
♦ K3	♦ RD
♣ AJ1086432	♣ 771

South responded with 2N to show his hand strength and North investigated aces. 5♣ by South showed no aces. West, Dr Fawaz Jumean, doubled "for the lead," as he pointed out later.

North redoubled, and Mr Salfiti paused longer than he ever did before and correctly passed. Fawaz led a diamond to his partner and wife, Hanaan, who cashed her ♠A, ♠K and ♠A for one down and an absolute top. Fawaz doubled and Hanaan made all their side's tricks.

JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope



ARIES (21 March - 19 April): Do not allow people who are prejudiced or limited in scope to influence you. Trust your own judgment about new ideas and people. A mystery will be solved; stay alert. Nothing could be more effective than the plan you are working on. Take steps to protect an investment. You can be a top performer if you concentrate. Resist a temptation to sound off.

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): Get household chores out of the way early. Work-related financial questions may be answered. A phone call could bring an intriguing last-minute invitation. Dress to impress. Do not take anything for granted now. Check out the details of an agreement before signing or recommending it. A greedy person may be trying to deceive you. Insist on seeing something for yourself.

GEMINI (21 May - 20 June): Now is an opportune time to discuss mutual financial responsibilities with your mate or partner. Keep entertainment expenses within reason. A younger member of the family may need a new sense of direction. Let loved ones know how much you care. Creative endeavors flourish when friends put their heads together. A serious discussion about the future can put marital plans into better perspective.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): Your intuition makes it easy for you to solve problems this week. Money can be made by giving an old idea a new twist. Go over your finances before making any purchases or promises. Much pleasure can be derived from a conversation with a loving family member. Someone who cares will urge you to be more adventurous. Inspiration comes from an unusual experience. Confide in mate.

LEO (23 July - 22 Aug.): Use your contacts more judiciously; be prepared to give as well as take. Try to find out where you stand with an influential associate. A newcomer could make you a fascinating proposition. Take advantage of an educational opportunity. Finish routine tasks before seeking responsibility for an intriguing new project. Romantic partner may want greater freedom. Remain calm.

VIRGO (23 Aug. - 22 Sept.): This week's business transactions will bring lasting benefits. Your imagination could be excited by an out-of-owner's observations. Resist the urge to make snap judgments. A relationship goes like clockwork. Sudden changes at work are both surprising and pleasing. Travel could be part of the package. Taking work home at night can be highly profitable. Double-check all financial facts and figures.

LIBRA (23 Sept. - 22 Oct.): A low-key approach is best if a disagreement arises. Do not attempt to intimidate the opposition or force an issue. It is important to say the right thing at the critical moment. Check the quality of a project before giving it your approval. Exercise or a brisk walk around the neighbourhood should make you feel better this week. Just be careful not to overdo.

SCORPIO (23 Oct. - 21 Nov.): Strive to be more patient with those who mean the most to you. Mate or partner may express confusion over some personal goals. Offer to act as a sounding board this evening. An opportunity to sell possessions or property may arise. A tidy profit can be made. Your workload increases due to someone's illness. Be careful not to take on more than you can handle.

SAGITTARIUS (22 Nov. - 21 Dec.): Adopt a different approach where a special relationship is concerned. Someone you have upset is slow to forgive. Giving credit where it is due may lessen an associate's envy. An authority figure is easier to reach now. Extra effort will result in a higher income. Say what you think, but avoid being overly vehement. Encourage a young person to forge ahead.

CAPRICORN (22 Dec. - 19 Jan.): Political differences can cause trouble this week. Help comes from an unexpected source. A sense of humor improves your chances for happiness in love. Refuse to be involved in friends' personal squabbles. A promotion is likely if your work reflects recent acquisition of new knowledge. Be more imaginative. Confrontations with an aggressive associate should be avoided.

AQUARIUS (20 Jan. - 18 Feb.): Things should start looking up financially. Careful money management will be required to keep the pressure off. Work in tandem with a co-worker to increase productivity on the job. Now is the time to finalise agreements. An encounter with someone from your past may leave you feeling restless. If looking for diversion, seek out simple, inexpensive pleasures.

PISCES (19 Feb. - 20 March): Be on the lookout for bargains. You may have a chance to attend a special sale or auction. Talking with a young person could be both entertaining and enlightening. Avoid sounding condescending. Dress elegantly and go all out to impress an influential associate. Someone who is basking in the limelight now may soon be out of favour. Learn to play a waiting game.

THIS WEEK'S CHILDREN are outgoing and energetic, likely to talk and walk earlier than other children. Affectionate and friendly, these Taurus will generously share their toys, hoping for a hug or kiss in return. Born leaders, they can be a bit bullying unless the tendency is nipped in the bud. Teach these youngsters that power and responsibility go hand-in-hand. For all their prized independence, these Bulls rely on the love and loyalty of their families.

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Church of the Annunciation: (Roman Catholic) Jabal Welbeh. Tel. 637440.	
De la Salle Church: (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.	
Terrasanta Church: (Roman Catholic) Jabal Welbeh, mass in Italian every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 622366.	
Church of the Redeemer: Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383.	
Armenian Orthodox Church: Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.	
St. Ephraim Church: (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.	
Amman International Church: (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 827981.	
Church of the Good Shepherd: (Evangelical Lutheran) Um As-Summaq Tel. 811295.	

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COMICS

Calvin and Hobbes

ANOTHER PLANET, ANOTHER SWEET PANORAMA OF INDESCRIBABLE GRANDEUR!

TOUCHING DOWN, OUR HERO SETS OFF TO SEARCH FOR SENTIENT LIFE.

ALAS, SPACEMAN SPIFF ONLY DISCOVERS A HIDEOUS BLOB SO MONUMENTALLY STUPID THAT IT JUST STARES STRAIGHT AHEAD, COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF ANYTHING AROUND IT!

THE INCREDIBLE SPACEMAN SPIFF ZOOMS TO THE SURFACE OF ANNOIE - 4!

MISS WORMWOOD! CALVIN'S SHOOTING SPIT BALLS!

PERPLEXED BY THE BLOB'S RESILIENCE, SPIFF ADDS MORE JUICE AND PREPARES TO FIRE AGAIN.

The Far Side

By GARY LARSON

"Anthropologist Anthropologist!"

"Well, here's your problem, Marge - If you and Bob really want kids, next time try sitting on these little guys."

Ursula, as we like to call her, was formed many years ago as a result of psychological distress. On May 7, 1993, she had a full eruption and this entire area was buried under a sea of hot acid. And as you can see, she's still festering and gurgling to this very day.

Tapeworms visiting a Stomach Park

Midlife crisis in maths

"Throw him in the swamp? You idiot! That's the first place they'll look!"

Things that live in water, and some of them.

"Listen, you want to come over to my place? I got great FM."

"OK, Zulu - that does it! Remember, those who live in grass houses shouldn't throw spears."